Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

JANUARY 1975 BULLETIN 430 South Michigan, Box 326
Chicago, Illinois 60605

The sixty-eighth meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

KENILWORTH INN
7110 N. Lincoln Avenue
Lincolnwood, Illinois

Sunday, January 19, 1975 at 6:00 P.M.

Please note that the January meeting will be the Annual Dinner that will take place at the above address. This will replace the regular meeting usually held on the fourth Wednesday. (More later.)

RECAP OF DECEMBER MEETING: President Saul Needleman opened the meeting at the new location for the second time. After the treasurer's report he reminded the membership of the Annual Dinner Meeting.....He then informed the members that a Club medal had been sent to Mrs. Fumi Lee, Dr. Feinberg's secretary, in appreciation for her work in typing our INSI BULLETINs.....Then a raffle was held for a book of ORT Dinner Coupons and two sets of HANUKKAH GELT that were issued by AINA. Twenty-seven people took chances at $1.00 each. The lucky winners were Selma Kaplan, Robert Schwartz and Art Schatten.....The election of the 1975 INSI officers was next. As there were no nominations from the floor, Ben Odesser proposed a unanimous vote for the slate as published in the December 1974 BULLETIN. This vote passed unanimously. Our officers for 1975 are:

President - Mr. Stewart Koppel
First Vice President - Dr. Morris Goldberg
Second Vice President - Mr. Leo Hecht
Secretary - Mr. Robert Greenstein
Treasurer - Mr. Robert Leonard

We wish to congratulate our new officers and wish them a very successful year in 1975.....
A new meeting location was then discussed. Several suitable places were proposed, but in most cases the rental was beyond our means. Robert Greenstein suggested a centrally located place that would be within our means. This will be investigated by a committee, and a report will be made to the Club.....The exhibits were next.....These were followed by the Ceremony of lighting the candles in the Hanukkah Menorah, performed by Robert Greenstein.....The meeting was then adjourned.....The remainder of the evening was used as a period of fellowship, socializing and enjoying our Hanukkah party. Special thanks to Abe DeKoven, Norbert Jericho and Robert Schwartz for bringing a supply of "goodies".

THE INSI ANNUAL DINNER: Details of this event were published in the December 1974 BULLETIN. However, we will repeat that the price is $7.00 for members, their family and guests but $7.50 for other nonmembers. For additional information and last minute reservations please contact Peggy Goldsmith (673-8514) or Diane Kahn (491-1350). The program at this dinner meeting will consist of the installation of the new INSI officers, the presentation of awards, and addresses from three internationally known personalities in numismatics. The principal speaker will be Dr. Yaakov Meshorer of Jerusalem, but we will also have as our

guests Mr. Nahum Hacohen and Mr. Morris Bram, both of New York. Due to the presence of the three distinguished guests, we expect a large attendance at this event. If you haven't already made a reservation, you should do so by January 13.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor was Saul Needleman who displayed and spoke on the various paper necessity money of the Holy Land. As explained in his fine article in the INSI BRIEF of December 1974, these paper tokens, scripts, chits or any other applied name may be divided into four categories: for transportation, for payment of taxes, for charity, and for military canteen purchases. In addition, Saul displayed a small collection of Judaic numismatic souvenir items. These were facsimile U.S. $1.00 note with Israel Bank ad on reverse, Israel "1000-pound" note advertising Israel candy, a "check" for 365 days of Happiness issued by the Israel Coin Club of L.A., and a set of wooden flats issued by the INS of San Gabriel Valley, California.

Then Harry Flower displayed and spoke on numismatic items pertaining to Hanukkah. These were five different 1 ounce silver bars issued in honor of Hanukkah (one of these was illustrated in the INSI BULLETIN, December 1974), the Chai Ingot No. 1, "CHANUKAH", issued by the Judaic Heritage Society, and ten different Hanukkah elongates on U.S. and Israel coins rolled by Dottie Dow. Harry also had an article from the Jerusalem Post (issue of Sept. 15, 1974) about RENE CASSIN, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate from France and a beautiful medal of this famous professor. The medal is currently available from the French Mint, 11 Quai de Conti, Paris 6, France.

Bob Leonard was next with a display of old French inflation coins of Louis XIV. He spoke about these interesting pieces and read from the book, Coins in History by John Porteous, Putman's Sons, New York, 1969. This volume would be an important addition to your numismatic library.

Dr. Morris Goldberg had an excellent display of Shalom Aleichem items. First, he had the sheet from the album issued by the Judaica Historical Philatelic Society on this famous writer. It gave a short bibliography of Shalom Aleichem and showed three stamps, one each from Romania, Israel and Russia, each bearing his photograph. Then a painting, an unusual piece of art work by a Polish artist, done on antique wood about 15" x 24" was shown. Next, there was a medal, the 75th in the series of The Medallic History of the Jewish People (see illustration), and lastly, a book on his life written by his daughter. We thank Dr. Goldberg for sharing some of his collectables with us.

Stewart Koppel displayed a new plaque by the world famous artist-sculptor, Paul Vincze of London. This 4 1/2" x 6 1/4" piece was created as a tribute to David Ben-Gurion. It is currently available from Paul Vincze, 5 Rossetti Studios, Flood Street, Chelsea, London, S.W. 3, England.

The last exhibitor was Ben Odesser, who spoke on an interesting booklet that he had received. This was The Antiochus Scroll, issued by the General Israel Orphans Home for Girls/ Jerusalem/ 1974.

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: In completing two years as President of INSI, I am aware that it is really the people behind the scenes that make the Club what it is. It is to these,

the members of the Board, chairmen of all my committees and everyone concerned with the BULLETIN that I owe my gratitude and thanks for helping me bring INSI to where it is today.

I wish our new President, Stew Koppel, the best of luck and ask everyone to support him as you supported me.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT ISSUES — RECENT AND PENDING: To keep our members up-to-date, we would like to review the current Israel numismatic issues. (1) The David Ben-Gurion coins were discussed and illustrated in INSI BULLETIN, August 1974. The Club order has not arrived. (2) The new Hanukkah coins were discussed and illustrated in INSI BULLETIN, December 1974. Although ordering instructions have not arrived at the time of this writing, Club orders will be taken at the January meeting. The prices will probably be $9.00 for the B. U. and $18.00 for the proof. (3) The official Arthur Rubinstein Medals will soon be released. These will be minted in 59mm. bronze, 45mm. silver and 35mm. gold. The first 1000 gold medals will also bear Mr. Rubinstein's signature. The obverse portrays the artist's profile based on a drawing by Pablo Picasso. The reverse carries a small emblem of Israel at the top. Curved around the rim in Hebrew and in the center in English is the legend, "1st Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition Jerusalem 1974".

The prices have not been announced. (4) The 1975 Pidyon Haben coins will be similar to the 1974 issue, except that the face value will be increased to 25 pounds, and the date changed. These will be struck in B. U. with a Star of David mint mark with plain edge, and in proof marked with a "mem" and with milled edge. The ordering instructions for this issue have not arrived. We believe that the price will be $22.00 for the B. U. and $44.00 for the proof. (5) The 1975 IGCMC New Year Token will be delayed due to a spelling error on the original die. The incorrect tokens have been destroyed, and new correct ones will arrive soon for distribution to AINA and INSI members.

INSI PERSONALS: Congratulations are due to two of our members. Dr. Saul Needleman has been elected President, and Robert Gartenberg Secretary, of the Morton Grove Coin Club. INSI members wish you both a successful and meaningful year in your new duties.

INSI BRIEF FOR JANUARY: We have decided to reproduce "A Tribute" on page 4 instead of the usual INSI BRIEF. This beautiful and heart-warming tribute was conceived and mailed to over 5000 Christian friends of Rev. Jim Missildine, Secretary of INS of Michigan. We thank Jim for his friendship and support of the Jewish people. Be sure and read this and show to your friends.

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Editor - Mr. Harry Flower
Assoc. Editor - Dr. Alan Feinberg

Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

ELIM HOUSE

A CHRISTIAN INFORMATION SERVICE
P.O. Box 35412
Detroit, Michigan 48235

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mr. Jim Missildine
477-0160

A TRIBUTE

The Yom Kippur War cost Israel over eight billion dollars and 2,521 dead in its first ten days. This number of dead was not large by world standards, but was so large that it touched every Jewish family in Israel and the Jewish community throughout the world. Israel is under a tremendous financial burden and psychological pressure and many of its people are discouraged.

There is an old Hasidic story about a student who goes to his rabbi and says, "Oh master, I love you!" The rabbi responds with a question, "Tell me, do you know what hurts me?" The young man is bewildered, taken aback. "Why do you ask me such a question when I have just told you I love you?" The rabbi shakes his head, "Because, my friend, if you do not know what hurts me, how can you truly love me?"

Anti-Semitism is the oldest hurt of the Jewish people. Only weeks ago a Jewish friend gave me the book, "The New Anti-Semitism" by Arnold Forster and Benjamin R. Epstein. The book is not a history of that painful, pervasive phenomenon, but rather an analysis of Anti-Semitism today - here in the United States and in the world.

Dear friends, we must continue to pray for and support Israel in every way possible. Love should be extended to Jewish people now more than ever. (The above is a partial quote from my letter written to over 5,000 Christians)

We at "Elim House" in Detroit wish you, the Israel Numismatic Society of Michigan, Israel Coin Clubs and Societies throughout the country, A.I.N.A. and the Israel Coins and Medals Corp. , success and continuing growth in the coming New Year, as you continue to encourage the cause of ISRAEL.

The history of Israel, both Biblical and secular, is seen in Israel Numismatics. Coins and medals cross the boundaries of prejudice caused by misunderstanding and help to establish friendship based upon common interest.

The ministries of "Elim House" have extended into 543 Baptist, Independent Bible, Methodist, Presbyterian, Independent Community churches and thousands of Christian homes for the purpose of helping to overcome anti-Semitism and furthering the cause of love and mutual respect between Jews and true Christians.

On the eve of Yom Kippur we again go on record with a statement of belief:

We believe, that according to the promises made to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3), God gave the Land of Israel to the Jews, unconditionally, although possession was conditional (Deuteronomy 28:1-68). Therefore, they are entitled by Divine fiat to the Land TODAY, even as in ancient times. We also desire to commend Israel for her humane treatment of her Arab minority and to encourage her in this course.

In addition, we want to condemn anti-Semitism in any form, both here in America and that being practiced in communist countries, notably Russia. In this respect, we want to remind our Jewish friends that Bible-believing Christians, because of our heritage, love the Jews and heed God's command to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" and for the Salvation of all Israel's People. (Psalm 122)

Yours and His for Israel,

Jim Missildine member I.N.S of Michigan

Israel Numismatic Society
OF ILLINOIS

FEBRUARY 1975 BULLETIN

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The sixty-ninth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, February 26, 1975
8:00 P.M. Sharp

Please note our new meeting address. This is a prestigious location, and we appreciate the Skokie Library making it available to us. There is ample parking around the building. As the premises must be vacated by 10:30 P.M., please make an effort to arrive early. The meeting will start promptly at 8:00 P.M.

RECAP OF JANUARY MEETING: Our third Annual INSI Dinner that took place last month is now history. It was a great affair. Its success was due to the efforts of Peggy Goldsmith, Sondra Needleman and Diane Kahn. There were 75 members and guests present. At each place setting there was a souvenir menu, a cosmetic item and a special elongated U.S. cent. The rolled out coin was made to commemorate this event. It was designed by Saul Needleman and produced by Dottie Dow of Phoenix, Arizona. Extras are available at 75¢ each. If to be mailed, order from the Club address, and please include a 10¢ stamp..... Dr. Saul Needleman opened the meeting by welcoming the members and their guests. A Speaker's Medal was then presented by him to those who had presented programs during the past year — Nathan Eglit, Stewart Koppel and Harry Flower. A medal was also given to Marilyn Moss, daughter of member Paul Moss, in appreciation for her work on the two plaques that were given to the Consuls of Denmark and Holland..... A delicious dinner was then served..... Mr. Harry Flower was then called on to make the presentation of the INSI Medal of Merit. After enumerating the reasons why he was selected by the Awards Committee, Dr. Alan Feinberg was called forward to receive his medal, the highest award of INSI. Mr. Koppel then made a similar presentation to Dr. Saul Needleman. These two members had been selected as deserving these honor awards for their contributions to numismatics and services to our organization..... As Mr. Flower was the President just prior to Dr. Needleman, he was called on to present the Past President's Medal. As provided in our constitution, every outgoing President will be given this medal of appreciation..... The installation of the new 1975 INSI officers was next. The installing officer was Mr. Morris Bram, President of the American Israel Numismatic Association. After a short speech Mr. Bram conducted the installation ceremony in a most dignified and meaningful manner. We appreciate his coming to Chicago just for this purpose and sincerely thank him. ..... After concluding the installation, Mr. Bram introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Yaakov Meshorer. Probably the world's greatest authority on ancient Jewish coins, Dr. Meshorer presented a program by slides and narration. He spoke in nontechnical language as he selected various coins for discussion. Dr. Meshorer came from New York, where he is on a research grant from Jerusalem, to be our guest speaker at this dinner. We greatly appreciate his visit with us and thank him for his program. At the conclusion, both Mr. Bram and Dr. Meshorer were presented with engraved Speaker's Medals.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: "Since I am unable to attend the February meeting, I would like to take this opportunity, through the INSI BULLETIN, to let the membership know that I appreciate their confidence by electing me President for 1975. I need your help to continue to make our Club successful and to have interesting meetings for the coming year.

Dr. Herbert Lippitz and Mr. Aaron Kaplan have agreed to serve on the Board. Mr. Harry Flower and Dr. Alan Feinberg will continue editing the Club BULLETIN. Mr. Leo Hecht will be the Exhibits Chairman, and Mrs. Peggy Goldsmith will take over the newly created post of New Coin Chairman.

We are in need of a Program Chairman. Mr. Paul Moss has agreed to co-chair this position with another member. Anyone interested, please contact Paul or any officer at the meeting. Also needed is an INSI BRIEFS Chairman and a Refreshments Chairman. If any member will accept either of these positions, please let it be known at the meeting. Remember, this is your Club and we all have to work together to make it a success."

STEWART KOPPEL - President

NEW INSI POST OFFICE ADDRESS: Please note the new Post Office Address of your Club. It is on the top right hand side of the first page of this BULLETIN.

1975 INSI CLUB DUES: Your Club dues are now past due. If you have not already paid, please make payment at the February meeting. If unable to attend, please mail check to the Club P.O. address.

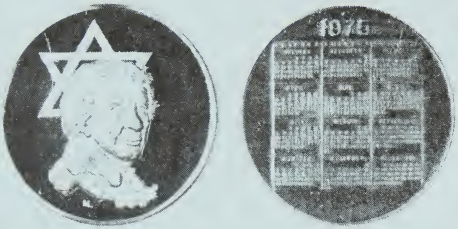
INSI IN "COIN WORLD": Your INSI has been making the "World's Greatest Numismatic Publication". We have had write-ups in the January 8th (page 53) and January 15th (page 76), 1975 issues. Thanks, COIN WORLD.

THE 1975 AINA TRIP TO ISRAEL: We wish to remind our members of the 7th Annual AINA Tour to Israel that will take place from March 4 to 18, 1975. It has just been announced that participants of the trip will receive a special 35mm. bronze edition of the Jewish National Fund Medal that was originally struck in 1971 in 59mm. bronze and 45mm. silver. (See illustration.) These annual AINA Tour Medals (a different issue each year) are very highly prized by collectors. A complete collection is quite rare. As time is drawing near for this trip, please call Anne Stearns of Garber Travel Service, (617)-566-2100.

AINA FOREST IN ISRAEL: A highlight of the AINA Tour will take place March 17, 1975 with the inaugural planting of the AINA Forest in Jerusalem. The AINA Forest will be made up of groves of 1000 trees, and of gardens of from 100 trees and more. Donors ($3.00 per tree) will receive a certificate asserting to their donation as well as a wooden token. For more information, write to the Jewish National Fund, 42 East 69th Street, New York, NY, 10021.

THE 1975 AINA CONVENTION: Again the AINA Convention will be held at the New York Sheraton Hotel from May 1 - 4, 1975. This event is always the apex of Judaic and Israeli numismatics of the year. We strongly urge INSI members to attend. It will be a meaningful and wonderful experience. For more information see Ben Odesser or Harry Flower.

NEW 1975 GOLDA CALENDAR MEDAL: A new 2 1/2" chrome-alloy medal is now available. (See illustration.) This privately issued handsome, proof-like piece sells for $7.50, but a Club order (10 or more) would be allowed a large discount. If interested, please be prepared to place your order at the February meeting. To this writer's knowledge, this is the first Judaic Calendar Medal of this size, and probably will be the first of a series. The piece weighs over a 1/4 pound and could be used as a paper weight.



INSI PERSONALS: We extend our best wishes to Stewart and Sadelle Koppel who are on their vacation "Down South". They are visiting Tahiti, Fiji Islands, New Zealand and Australia. We hope to hear about this trip at a future meeting.

Many great people were born in February. INSI members with birthdays this month are Melvin Greenstein, Dr. Emanuel Margoliash, Paul Moss, Hy Siegel and David Silverman. We wish you all a happy birthday. Did you know that Sholem Aleichlem was born in February?

Although not a member of our Club, we want to congratulate nationally known numismatist Maurice M. Gould for receiving the Numismatic Literary Guild Award for the "Best Syndicated Coin Column for 1974". Maury is a board member of both the ANA and AINA. By the way he is running for reelection for both these positions for 1975. He would appreciate your vote.

PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY: We are fortunate in having Rabbi Norman Berlat with us again. He will present Part II of his November 1974 program of "Early History of the Jews of America". His program of slides and narration is both interesting and historical. I am sure that all of us will enjoy his presentation. Remember, your friends are welcome.

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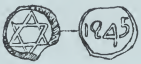
INSI BRIEFS

THE "STAR OF DAVID" COINS OF MOROCCO

by Robert D. Leonard Jr.



Probably the most misleading coins likely to be encountered by a noncollector or beginner are the copper falus pieces of Morocco. Always crudely cast, they appear to be extremely ancient, an impression strengthened by their design of a star of David with a dot in the center and usually a date in the 1200s.

In fact, though, these common pieces are often scarcely 100 years old. Their dates are Anno Hejirae, of the Mohammedan Era commencing July 16, 622 C.E., but expressed in European numerals—which would lead one to think they represent Anno Domini dates. And the "star of David" has probably no connection with Judaism, even though these coins are said to have been made by Jews.

The series began under Sultan El Hisham, 1206-09 A.H. (1792-95 C.E.), and came to an end during the reign of Sultan Mulai Hassan (El Hasan) III, 1290-1311 A.H. (1873-94 C.E.), but the extreme range of dates reported is 1207-1295. There are also many undated and garbled date coins known, but from their style they were probably all struck within this period. They are generally found in three sizes, 17-20 mm, 22-25 mm, and 27-29 mm, but rare specimens are known as small as 12 mm and as large as 34 mm. The three common sizes are agreed to be denominations of 1, 2, and 3 falus (also spelled fels, fulus, fluce, and floos), with the smallest a zelagh (1/2 falus?) and the largest a 4 falus piece. In 1895 the falus was worth 1.9 cents U.S.

The "star of David" design is described by W. H. Valentine, in his book Modern Copper Coins of the Muhammadan States, as "the double triangle so common on Musalman coins and called by them 'Solomons seal.'" A few pieces are known with an eight-pointed star obverse, also a Muslim symbol. On the smaller coins the reverse design consists of the date only, while on the larger pieces the mint name is usually added.

These coins were frequently cast in a tree of 12 pieces, specimens of which are in the British Museum and Chase Manhattan Bank collections. In 1967 a duplicate whole tree from the Gibbs collection was offered by a New York dealer for $250, and occasionally other specimens appear in auctions. It is rumored, however, that some "Moroccan coin trees" on the market are modern fakes. The coins themselves have a catalog value in William D. Craig's Coins of the World 1750-1850 of from 50¢ to $3.00 (1971).

The extreme crudity of these coins suggests that they are not the product of a regular mint. Indeed, Valentine writes "It is said that the coining of these curious pieces is done by the Jews to whom the contract to make them is given by the reigning Sultan." If true, then the descendants of their makers are probably residents of the State of Israel, where perhaps further research will bring the whole story to light.

Please credit Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois BULLETIN and AUTHOR.

Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

MARCH 1975 BULLETIN Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The seventieth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI)will be held at

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, April 2, 1975
8:00 P.M. Sharp

Please note that the next meeting will take place the first Wednesday in April and that the regular April meeting will be the last Wednesday in April. To repeat, the March meeting will be April 2 and the April meeting will be April 30.

RECAP OF FEBRUARY MEETING: Due to the absence of President Stewart Koppel, First Vice-President Morris Goldberg conducted the meeting. This was the first in this location — in the new, modern beautiful building of the Skokie Public Library. Our meeting room was spacious, well-lighted and equipped with screen and new furniture. Dr. Goldberg thanked Leo Hecht for making the necessary arrangements..... Ben Odesser then read a letter from Maurice Gould, announcing his candidacy for board member of AINA and ANA. Ben announced that he is also a candidate for AINA board. Secretary Robert Greenstein was instructed to write to AINA headquarters for a petition so that Ben will be officially nominated..... Dr. Goldberg then turned the meeting over to Leo Hecht, who took charge of the exhibits..... After the exhibits Rabbi Norman Berlat presented the second part of his program, "Early History of the Jews in America". This narrated slide program was not only historically interesting, but his spoken commentary interspersed with wit and humor made this an outstanding program. We sincerely thank Rabbi Berlat for his presentation and hope that he will honor us with another in the near future.

EXHIBITS: In keeping with the theme of Bob Leonard's excellent article in the February BULLETIN, Harry Flower displayed various coins and tokens of the world that depicted the "Star of David" design. In addition to the Morocco coins, both the crude issues of the 1800's and the later modern issues, there were coins of British West Africa (see illustration) and Nigeria. Also there was an American Civil War token, an amusement token, and a rare 17th century Austria-Hungary token issued by Heinrich Stetisch Co. (a large 51x51mm. bronze klippe). All of these feature the six-pointed star but were non-Judaic.

The next exhibitor was Robert Leonard, who displayed the INSI BRIEF article, "The 'Star of David' coins of Morocco" along with some of the coins that he wrote about. Bob's article is "first class" and indicates numismatic and historical research. We need more articles of this type from our membership.

The third exhibitor was Ben Odesser who had a collection of old checks. These interesting pieces were from "District No. 1, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF BENAI BERITH, New York" and were written in the late 1800's. As was required at that time each had a U.S. revenue stamp affixed. Ben also displayed Franklin Mint medals featuring the "Dead Sea Scrolls" and "Fiddler on the Roof". There were also medals of "Mark Spitz" and a historical medal of Ze'ev Jabotinsky commemorating the Jerusalem Lads Brigade.

Saul Needleman displayed four varieties of the very interesting MOSES elongated US cent. (See illustration.) They all feature the cowled figure of Moses holding a staff and the two tablets of the Ten Commandments (in Hebrew). These scarce pieces are somewhat of a mystery as to their origin. It is believed that they were made at the New York World's Fair of 1939-1940. They are catalogued under "Ten Commandments" in THE ELONGATED COLLECTOR by Dottie Dow, Imperial Litho, Phoenix, Arizona, 1965.

Don Oppenheim displayed and spoke to us about an old Megillah that had been in his family over 150 years. As most of these are, this was hand-lettered in Hebrew on sheep skin. In a most interesting manner Don related the nationalistic story of Queen Esther based on true historic facts. We thank Don for bringing this meaningful Judaic item to our meeting and for his brief talk on this period of ancient Jewish history.

The last exhibitor was Peggy Goldsmith who brought and displayed a beautiful figurine, "The Coin Collector". This imported porcelain piece depicted a man sitting at his desk examining a coin. Thanks, Peggy, for bringing this appropriate statuette to our meeting.

NEW ISRAEL BANKNOTE SERIES: Just released by the Bank of Israel is the illustrated 10 Lirot or 10 pound note featuring Moses Montefiore; the reverse shows the Jaffa gate. Next to be released is the 5 pound note portraying Henrietta Szold, and later this year the 50 pound note with Chaim Weizmann. Then there will follow the 100 pound note with the likeness of Theodor Herzl. Finally in 1977 a 500 pound note with David Ben-Gurion will be released. This is the first time that Israel has issued a note of this large denomination..... For the first time the currency of Israel will have embossed discs in the lower left corner, a feature for the blind. Two discs will indicate 10 pounds, one disc 5 pounds, three discs 50 pounds, four discs 100 pounds, etc. At the present time Holland is the only other country whose currency bears this marking to enable blind people to identify the denomination of paper money.

INSI AND AINA PERSONALS: Special thanks to Leo Hecht for making the arrangements with the Skokie Public Library for our new meeting room. This is an ideal location, and we sincerely thank the Library for making it available to us.

A belated special thanks are due Dr. Alan Feinberg for taking pictures at our January Dinner. Some of these are reproduced in this BULLETIN in place of the regular INSI BRIEFS.

Please remember that Ben Odesser is a candidate for AINA Board member. Those of you who are AINA members, be sure to support our own member Ben when you receive your ballot.

We wish to remind our members who are also ANA members that Morris Bram and Maurice Gould are running for election to the ANA Board. Be sure to support our well qualified friends.

We extend our best wishes to Norbert Jericho and Charlotte Nagy, both of whom have birthdays this month. Also born in March were bacteriologist Paul Ehrlich and physicist Albert Einstein.

THE ISRAEL 1975 INDEPENDENCE DAY COIN: The 1975 Independence Day Commemorative Coin will be issued to honor the 25th Anniversary of the Israel Bond Program. Official information has not been released, but it has been reported to be a 25 pound coin in B.U. and proof silver (see illustration) and a 500 pound in gold. Our members will be informed just as soon as more information is available. (Photo courtesy Jerusalem Post)

INSI BRIEFS: For the benefit of our new members, a word about page 4 of our BULLETIN. This page is usually reserved for original articles by our members. These should be on the subject of Judaic numismatics, but in some cases may deviate. They may be religious, historical, archaelogical, but should be Judaic, and if possible, include numismatics. We invite any of our members to write an article (one page preferred) to submit for publication. In the past many of these have been republished in other Bulletins and in a national magazine. Turn your typed copy in to Dr. Alan Feinberg or to Harry Flower.....Instead of the customary INSI BRIEFS for March, we are publishing photos taken at the Annual Dinner this past January. We thank Dr. Feinberg for taking the pictures.

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN OF NETHERLANDS:

DE PARTICULIER SECRETARESSE
VAN
H.M. DE KONINGIN

AH/75/TvW

Amsterdam, January 16th, 1975

Dr. I. Feinberg
Northwestern University
Department of Illinois
430 South Michigan Avenue
Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60605
U.S.A.

Hare Majesteit de Koningin heeft mij opgedragen U te verzoeken haar van dank te willen aanvaarden voor de zeer fraaie munt.

De Koningin is U voor deze toezending zeer dankbaar.

De Particuliere Secretaresse
Hare Majesteit de Koningin,

Translation:

Her Majesty the Queen has requested me to thank you for sending the most beautiful coin.

The Queen is most appreciative to you for sending this.

The Private Secretary of
Her Majesty the Queen,

NEW INSI MEMBERS: Your INSI continues to grow. The following people have recently joined our Club: Joseph Abbell, Sanford Aronin, Rabbi Norman Berlat, Aldona Davis, Aaron Derm, M.Dolins, Gene Edlin, Samuel Fields, DDS, Mrs. Marty Greene, Seymour Hershman, M.D., Sheldon Hershman, Charles Kisner, Gilbert Levy, David Machoff, Robert Moss, Robert Ness, Meyer Proctor, Mike Ross and Kent Taylor. We welcome all of you and hope that you enjoy Judaic numismatics with the other members.

PROGRAM FOR APRIL 2nd MEETING: We are fortunate to have as the speaker of the evening, GERDA FRANK, who will present a program of slides and narration on Akhenaton (also spelled Ikhnaton), the name assumed by Amenhotep IV who came to the Egyptian throne c. 1375 B.C.E. She will bring out what was probably the first form of monotheism ever developed in the world. Gerda Frank was formerly with the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago but is now with the Raymond Foundation affiliated with the Field Museum of Chicago. This program will be a real treat, and every member should make a special effort to attend. Remember, visitors welcome.

****

President - Mr. Stewart Koppel
First Vice President - Dr. Morris Goldberg
Second Vice President - Mr. Leo Hecht

Secretary - Mr. Robert Greenstein
Treasurer - Mr. Robert Leonard
Editor - Mr. Harry Flower
Assoc. Editor - Dr. Alan Feinberg

Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

JAN. 12
1975
CHICAGO
ILL.
AWARDS AND INSTALLATION DINNER

Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

APRIL 1975 BULLETIN

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The seventieth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

→ Wednesday, April 23, 1975 ←
8:00 P.M. Sharp

Please note that this meeting will take place on the regular 4th Wednesday of this month, and NOT on the last or 5th Wednesday as announced in the March BULLETIN.

We all know what happened on Wednesday, April 2, 1975 , the scheduled date of our 70th meeting. This was one of those big snow storms that practically immobilized automobile transportation. Most businesses, factories, offices and public institutions, including the Skokie Public Library, closed early. Many of our members were called, informing them of the cancellation of our meeting. We are sorry if anyone attempted to drive to the Library, but every one could not be reached. This was a "first cancellation" for our INSI. The scheduled program was postponed to the April 23rd meeting. Gerda Frank has been kind to present her program at this time. Let us show our appreciation by having a large attendance. This will be one of our more "Superior Presentations". Don't miss it.

1975 AINA CONVENTION - May 1-4, 1975: We wish to remind our members of the Third Annual AINA Convention that will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in New York City from May 1 to 4, 1975. It is not too late to plan to attend this important event, the apex of Judaic and Israeli numismatics of the year. We strongly urge our INSI members to attend — it will be an enjoyable, educational and meaningful experience. For more information, contact Ben Odesser or Harry Flower, who have attended previous conventions.

IN MEMORIAM: With a sad heart, we want to report the passing of Mary Ann Bell, INSI No. 2 — one of the founders and charter members of this organization. One of the original organizers, Mary served as Secretary of our INSI from the time of its formation in 1969 until Dec. 1973. Due to her illness she had been inactive, but her heart and interest had remained with INSI and Judaic numismatics. In addition to her numismatic interest, Mary was active in Jewish affairs. She was Past President of the Sisterhood of Cong. Oir Israel, Past President of the Sisterhood of Cong. Beth Sholom Ahavas Achim, Past President of Devorah Chapter of Mizrachi Women, etc... Mary will be missed. The officers and members of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois extend their deepest sympathy to her husband Louis and to her children, Shana, Jerrold and Marilyn. (Marilyn is the wife of INSI member Abe DeKoven.)

THE ISRAEL 1975 INDEPENDENCE DAY COINS: We now have more information on this issue — the coins that are to be struck for the 27th Anniversary of Israel's Independence. They will be dated 1975 and will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Israel Bonds Organization. The 500-pound piece will measure 30mm., weigh 20 grams and will be struck at the Utrecht Mint

in Holland in 22 karat gold. Each piece will be housed in a special handmade olive wood box. The 25 pound silver coins will measure 40mm. and weigh 30 grams (the largest silver coin to be struck for Israel to date). The mintage is 98,000 for the BU and 72,000 for the proof. The 25 and 500 pound coins have a common reverse, as pictured in the center illustration. Our members will be informed as to prices and ordering information when this is received.

ISRAEL RELEASES NEW 100-POUND NOTE: The second currency release of the new series by the Bank of Israel is this 100-pound note. The face of the note features Theodor Herzl and the entrance of Mount Herzl. The back of the note depicts the Zion Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem. The piece measures 147.5 x 75.5mm. and is blue and multicolored. The watermark shows a picture of Herzl. Contrary to earlier information, this note does not bear the embossed discs that were to be an aid for the blind.

INSI PERSONALS: Some of our INSI members have birthdays this month. Among them are Dr. Alan Feinberg, Kay Heffner, Robert Leonard, Sondra Needleman, Bernard Stern, Dave Schecter and Myron Tiersky. We wish them all a real Happy Birthday. Also born in April was Joseph Pulitzer, the newspaper publisher and owner, who established the School of Journalism at Columbia University and the Pulitzer Prizes for outstanding achievement in journalism, literature and music.

INSI BRIEFS: We discussed the INSI BRIEFS in the March BULLETIN. This is an appeal for our members for articles for this page. Only about 6 members, out of more than 100, have written articles. Please try your hand at writing for your BULLETIN, and submit your typed copy to Dr. Feinberg or to Harry Flower.

NEW MEDAL HONORS HERBERT LEHMAN: The sixth medal in the Judah Magnes Museum's JEWISH-AMERICAN HALL OF FAME SERIES honors the late Herbert H. Lehman, who was governor of New York (1932-1941), Director General of the United Nation's Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (1943-1946) and U.S. Senator from New York (1950-1956). The piece was designed by Jacques Schnier, and it was struck in extremely high relief by Medallic Art

Company of Danbury, Connecticut. This issue, as its predecessors in the series, preserves the distinctive rounded-trapezoid shape. The obverse features the famous Senator to the left, with his name and dates. The reverse has an irregular Star of David and his favorite biblical quotation: TO DO JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, AND WALK HUMBLY WITH THY GOD. The mintage is 1000 in bronze and 500 in 0.999 fine silver. These are available for $9.50 and $38.50 each, or $47.00 for the pair from Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley, California, 94705.

NEW LERNER MEDAL HONORS THE DUTCH: This medal was issued by Avraham Lerner to honor the Dutch People for their support of Israel and as a tribute for their stand during the fateful days of the Yom Kippur War. The obverse symbolizes the refusal of the people of the Netherlands to yield to the Arab oil threats during the crisis period. The upright tulip represents the attitude of Holland while the drooping flowers represent the nations of Europe that gave in. The Hebrew inscription translates as "To Holland from Israel with Love". The reverse features a dripping gasoline hose, curving around is the inscription, "NO SUBMISSION TO ARAB BLACKMAIL, 1973". This historical medal, rich in symbolism, was struck in 0.999 silver with a diameter of 1 1/4" and a mintage of 650. They are available for $7.50 from Avraham Lerner, P.O. Box G, Denville, New Jersey, 07834.

PROGRAM FOR APRIL 23 MEETING: Although we already discussed the program for this meeting, we would like to repeat that Gerda Frank will present a program of slides and narration on Akhenaton, who came to the Egyptian throne c. 1375 B.C.E. She will bring out what was probably the first form of monotheism ever developed in the world. As previously stated, she was formerly with the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, but is now with the Raymond Foundation affiliated with the Field Museum of Chicago. This program will be one of our "very best". Every member should make a special effort to attend, and remember, your friends and any other visitors are welcome.

President - Mr. Stewart Koppel
First Vice President - Dr. Morris Goldberg
Second Vice President - Mr. Leo Hecht
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Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

MAY 1975 BULLETIN Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The seventy-first general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, May 28, 1975
8:00 P.M. Sharp

RECAP OF APRIL MEETING: President Stewart Koppel called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. After the Treasurer's report he thanked Vice President Morris Goldberg for taking over during his absence in April and thanked Program Chairman Paul Moss for arranging for our April speaker, Gerda Frank..... The subject of INSI BRIEFS was next discussed. Stewart again requested our members to try writing articles for our BULLETIN. For the first time in history we had a blank 4th page. Please do not allow this to happen again. Try your hand at writing that Judaic-Numismatic article. Your INSI BULLETIN is considered one of the best in the country, and we do not want to lose this reputation by discontinuing our "Original Article Page", the INSI BRIEFS. You may submit your article to INSI BRIEFS Chairman Saul Needleman..... President Koppel then asked for one or more volunteers to act as Refreshment Chairman — to arrange for refreshments after meetings. Selma Kaplan and Peggy Goldsmith will co-host this important position. We thank them for "taking over" this duty. We know that all of the members will appreciate the "coffee and" after the meetings..... The meeting was then turned over to Exhibit Chairman Leo Hecht. After the exhibits Program Chairman Paul Moss introduced the well qualified speaker of the evening, Mrs. Gerda Frank. Her program of slides and narration was on the early Egyptian King Akhenaton (c. 1375 B.C.E.). This was a very outstanding presentation, and we thank Mrs. Frank for this very interesting and informative program. In appreciation she was presented with an inscribed Speakers Medal. We hope that Mrs. Frank will return with another program in the near future.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor was Robert Greenstein who displayed and spoke on the new "AINA Forest Wooden Token". This piece is given to anyone who "plants" a tree in the AINA Forest in Israel "in memory of" or "in honor of" for a $3.00 fee. A certificate is sent to any designated name, and the donor will receive a wooden tree token for each tree. This is an excellent way to honor or to memorialize a friend or relative. Make checks payable to Jewish National Fund, 42 East 69th Street, New York, New York, 10021. We thank Bob for bringing this "numismatic first" to our meeting.

The second exhibitor was Harry Flower who displayed his prize-winning exhibit of "Medallic Tributes to Albert Einstein". This consisted of 20 Einstein medals struck in gold, silver and bronze from various countries of the world. Harry also displayed the famous Frankenhuis

Medal that Maurice Frankenhuis had commissioned Elizabeth Weistrop in February 1967 to create as "A Tribute to the 6 Million". Only 500 of these 76mm. bronze medals were struck

by Medallic Art Co. More information on this important Judaic item is available in THE SHEKEL, Spring 1968, Vol. 1, No. 1 and Fall 1969, Vol. 2, No. 3. The medal is now quite scarce, but is occasionally available. We would suggest that you "grab it" when offered. It would make an important addition to your Judaic collection.

Dr. Morris Goldberg was next with an interesting topical display of Haym Salomon items. This included a complete sheet of the new U. S. Haym Salomon Bicentennial Commemorative Stamps, an engraved first-day cover with this stamp, medal No. 12 of the series "Medallic History of the Jews of America", and the beautiful medal engraved by Paul Vincze for the series "Jewish-American Hall of Fame" issued by the Judah Magnes Museum (See INSI BULLETIN, June 1973). This was a historical and educational display concerning our U. S. Bicentennial, and we thank Dr. Goldberg for bringing this display to our meeting.

The fourth exhibitor was Dr. Saul Needleman, who displayed a complete type set of the Israel Government New Year's Tokens. Saul should be proud, as I believe that he is one of the very few INSI members to have these. The illustration is of the new 1975 issue, the corrected version of the earlier release with the word, "GREETINGS" spelled "GREATINGS". In addition to the corrected word, the other side of the token was redesigned: the menorah emblem is larger and in a different position, the angles of the spiral arcs are different, and most important, the Hebrew and English legends are in relief (raised) instead of incuse (sunk)..... Saul also had the INSI Medal and the INSI Elongateds and informed us that these are still available from him. In addition, there was a Field Museum Bulletin with an article by our April Speaker, Gerda Frank.

Leo Hecht was the last speaker of this group. He elaborated on the article, "The Insidious Counterfeit Gold Herzl" by Edward Janis in THE SHEKEL, Vol. 7, No. 1, Spring 1975. In a most interesting manner he discussed the aspects of this very important counterfeit and how it could affect the Israel Gold Coin Collector. For the benefit of those who did not have a

copy of the magazine, Leo distributed Xerox copies of the article. Thanks, Leo, for calling our attention to this important phase of Israel Numismatics.

NEW MEDAL BY JUDAIC HERITAGE: A recent issue of the Judaic Heritage Society, Suite 4011, 866 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York, 10017 is this superb new art medal "Jacob and the Angel". This beautiful high relief masterpiece was designed by Oscar Harris and sculptored by Karen Worth and was struck in 24 karat gold (1 1/4", 1 troy ounce, mintage: 1000) in 999 fine silver (2" diameter, 2 3/4 ounce, mintage: 2500) and in bronze (2" diameter, mintage: 5000). The medal was issued to commemorate the biblical origins of the name ISRAEL on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. The reverse of the medal bears the quotation from Genesis in which the name Israel appears for the first time: "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel". A brochure is available from the above address.

COINS AND TOKENS TO BE DISTRIBUTED: Those members who had placed Club orders for the 1974 HANUKKA Coins and the 1975 PIDYON HABEN Coins may pick them up at the May meeting. Also to be distributed to all paid up members, the new 1975 Israel New Year's Token.

PROGRAM FOR MAY: We are fortunate to have for our May speaker a well known scholar, Mr. Benjamin Fain. He is educated in Talmudic and Rabbinic literature and lectures at the Anshe Emet Synagogue, North Shore Cong. Israel and Temple Sholom. His topic for the evening will be, "I have Good News and Bad News - Present and Future of World Jewry". Your editor knows Mr. Fain personally, and I assure all of our members that you will hear an interesting, informative and scholarly lecture. Be sure to attend, and bring your friends. By the way Mr. Fain is the owner of the JEWISH BOOK MART, 127 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago, 60602 (phone 782-5199). This is the only Jewish book store in the loop.

PROGRAM FOR JUNE: Our annual donated auction will take place during the June 25th meeting. For this event the members are requested to donate worthwhile items, numismatic or otherwise, to be auctioned, with the raised funds to be added to your INSI Treasury. Please do not bring "junk". Acceptables are coins and medals, books, liquors, pens and pencils, home made cakes, packaged foods, objects of art, jewelry, stamps or anything else that some one present might want to buy. Remember, to have a successful auction, there must be bidders, so come prepared to buy. If unable to attend the June auction, you may bring or send your donation to the May meeting.

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Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

Items of Interest to the Numismatist in THE JEWISH ENCYLOPEDIA

(1905 edition, revised through 1916) by Aaron Kaplan

Of the 12 volumes comprising the complete set, the author found 11 volumes using coins and medals as major reference to the article. These consist of photographs of coins, biographies of engravers and medalists, and a major monograph on the subject of Numismatics. The Encylopedia has relied heavily upon one major author: F.W. Madden, "History of Jewish Coinage, 1862", and the numerous reproductions of coins give credit to this author. It must be remembered that though this is the authoritative treatise on Jewish life, we are referring to an edition of The Jewish Encyclopedia which is over 60 years old and so may be subject to considerable updating.

The article on numismatics has two pages of illustrations of coins from the British Museum dating from a Persian daric of the 6th century B.C. to a brass coin of Bar Kochba of 135 C.E. I found that the history of ancient Israel was retold in considerable detail using coins to illustrate the events. Considerable detail was made telling how the various events shaped the type and condition of coins minted during these eras. There is even a paragraph about counterfeit shekels complete with the warning that forged specimens have been numerous since the Renaissance. "Most are, however, easy to detect, by the clumsiness of the design (which transforms the chalice into a censer), by the absence of date, and by the use of square Hebrew characters quite unknown not in that period alone, but in the whole range of Jewish numismatics. The counterfeits are also of a larger module than the real ones and are cast, not struck."

In the article on Poland, considerable reference is made to Polish coins with Jewish inscriptions of the 12th century, and there are two major illustrations of a hoard of coins unearthed in the Polish village of Glenbok in 1872. The likely interpretation is that Jewish coiners may have been Jews who made periodic trips to Poland to practice their trade although there is some evidence that there were people in Jewish communities in Poland at that time who could have provided this service.

Another important use made of ancient coins is the study of the formation of the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Depending upon the date of coinage, the inscribed letters will vary in form and shape. Thus the history of the Hebrew alphabet can be traced according to the dating of the coins.

In another article I will attempt to describe Medals as presented in the Encylopedia.

Polish Coins with Jewish Inscriptions.
(From "Revue Numismatique.")

Please credit Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois BULLETIN
and AUTHOR for any reproduction.

Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

JUNE 1975 BULLETIN

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The seventy-second general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, June 25, 1975
8:00 P.M.

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SPECIAL REMINDER

OUR ANNUAL
DONATED AUCTION

will take place at this
JUNE MEETING

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$

RECAP OF MAY MEETING: After the meeting was opened by President Stewart Koppel, the Treasurer's report was given by Robert Leonard..... Stewart then announced that David Silverman was a patient at Edgewater Hospital. A Club "Get Well" card will be sent, but I am sure that personal cards would be appreciated..... Next was discussed the new 1975 Independence Day Coin to be issued soon to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Israel Bond Organization. Illustrations and numismatic information were published in your INSI BULLETIN of April 1975. The price for the 25 pound silver coins will be $21.25 for the B.U. and $42.00 for the proof. The 500 pound gold will be $412.00. New Coin Chairman Peggy Goldsmith will accept your order at the June meeting. If unable to attend the next meeting and you want to place an order, be sure to contact Peggy by phone at 673-8514 and make arrangement for your payment. Please remember that June 25 is the Club deadline for ordering the new coins..... Stewart then suggested that the Club donate one or more subscriptions to numismatic magazines to the Skokie Public Library as a token of our appreciation. This idea was readily accepted by the members. Leo Hecht will check as to whether or not the Library already receives any of these publications. He will then report back to the Club..... Harry Flower was called on to give a report of the recent AINA Convention in New York. Among the reported items were the high prices realized for Judaic material at the April 30 auction. ..... Dr. Saul Needleman then discussed the proposed Seminar to be sponsored by your INSI in 1976. The Board has already met and locations are being investigated..... The meeting was then turned over to Exhibits Chairman Leo Hecht. After the exhibits there was a recess during which coffee and cake were served. We thank Selma Kaplan and Peggy Goldsmith for making this available..... After the refreshments Program Chairman Paul Moss introduced our speaker of the evening, Mr. Benjamin Fain. From the very beginning of his address

Mr. Fain exhibited his talent as an accomplished speaker. He spoke of Judaism from the Exodus to modern times. He touched on many topics; some were interspersed by questions from the audience. We all enjoyed and benefited from his excellent talk. As a token of appreciation he was presented with an engraved INSI Club Medal..... After the program the door prizes were distributed. Mrs. Lea Levy, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mrs. Sheldon Lurie, Dr. Alan Feinberg and Dr. Morris Goldberg were the lucky winners..... After elaborating on the importance of the Donated Auction to take place in June, President Koppel called for adjournment. More about this event later.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor was Dr. Morris Goldberg who had a collection of about 35 different Judaic Buttons. These had been issued for various purposes, such as political, fraternal, organizational, pro-Soviet Jewry and for Jewish propaganda. This type of collecting is now quite popular and is an inexpensive branch of Judaic Numismatics.

The next exhibitor was Robert Leonard with an early Polish coin and a copy of Aaron Kaplan's excellent article in the May issue of your INSI BRIEF. The coin was a 12th century Polish silver denar of Wladyslaw II and was similar to one that was illustrated. Bob can usually produce a coin from his extensive foreign collection to illustrate almost every period of history from most countries.

The third exhibitor was Harry Flower who displayed a collection of Badges and Ribbons of Judaic interest. Most of these were from conventions and inaugural meetings of INS coin clubs. Also shown were a badge from the Jewish War Veterans and one from an A. F. L. convention with the likeness of Samuel Gompers. Harry also had various items from the New York Convention, such as a set of elongated coins, numismatic calipers, etc. Also from New York he showed a small gold bar issued by Rodman and Yaruss Gold Corporation, dealers of precious metals. (The illustration shows the stamp that appears on this gold bar.) This Jewish-owned firm deals in gold and other precious metals as suppliers to the jewelry industry. They are also refiners, assayers and sweeps smelters.

Lastly Paul Moss displayed and spoke on a numismatic souvenir, a 5" replica of the Bar Cochba Revolt Coin of 132-135 C. E. These were given out in connection with the recent grand opening of the new Chicago branch of the Bank Leumi at 100 North LaSalle Street.

DONATED AUCTION FOR JUNE: Auction time is here again. In addition to the economic value of our annual INSI auction, it is a night of fellowship, old-fashioned fun and the possibility of acquiring a needed numismatic item. Most of our members know that we donate items to be auctioned and that the receipts are added to the Club treasury. Other than dues, this is our main income. Please bring your donations and display them on the front table — coins, medals, tokens, jewelry, objets d'art, books, wines, ceramics, pens or any other items that might be of interest to our members. Bear in mind that this is a FUND-RAISING EVENT FOR YOUR INSI, so come prepared to make purchases. Your check is o.k., your cash is accepted, but please, no credit cards.

Although the auction will take up the greater part of the evening, there will be a short business meeting, and there will be exhibits. If you have exhibit material, please bring it to the meeting.

To recap in a "nutshell", bring your donations, bring your money, and be prepared for an evening of real fun and enjoyment. Of course, friends and other interested persons are

welcome.

INSI PERSONALS: Most of you know of David Silverman's illness. We are happy to report that he is doing fine, and by the time you receive this BULLETIN he should be convalescing at his home. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he will be joining us at our meetings very soon. We understand that Dave really appreciated the Club "Get Well" card while he was a patient at Edgewater. Secretary Bob Greenstein obtained the signatures of the entire attending membership at the last meeting.

Congratulations are in order for Dr. Emanuel Margoliash, one of our charter members. Dr. Margoliash was honored by his appointment to membership in the National Academy of Sciences. He was one of 84 scientists elected this year to this prestigious organization.

We want to welcome Sylvia and Ben Odesser. They were on a 10-day vacation to London. Ben, how about a numismatic report of your trip?

The excellent job that Program Chairman Paul Moss has been accomplishing has been called to our attention. Keep up the good work, Paul. — We all appreciate the excellent programs.

The guest speaker at the May 14, 1975 meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was our own Stewart Koppel. Stew gave a report on his recent trip to Australia and the South Pacific.

POLICY REVISION OF ISRAEL GOVERNMENT COINS AND MEDALS CORPORATION: According to an unofficial report the IGCMC of Jerusalem has adopted a new policy regarding the quantity of coins to be issued in the future. This new plan provides that, when a new coin issue is announced, a maximum mintage will be set. If the orders received by a predetermined deadline are less than the maximum quantity announced, the number of coins struck will be decreased to the number of orders received by the deadline. However, should the orders exceed the maximum mintage announced, the maximum quantity will still be struck.

This policy goes into effect with the forthcoming "25th Anniversary of the Israel Bonds Organization" issues. The maximum quantities set are 98,000 for the 25 pound B. U. silver, 72,000 for the proof silver, and 51,500 for the 500 pound gold.

Remember, your deadline for ordering any of these through the Club is June 25, 1975 — the date of the June meeting.

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Part 2 - Items of Interest to the Numismatist in THE JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA
(1905 edition, revised through 1916) by Aaron Kaplan

The Beer Medal

Until the 15th century, Jews were severely limited in following the various arts. Apparently because Jews were engaged in commerce, some were allowed to practice in stone and metal engraving, the knowledge of which was frequently transmitted from father to son. There are records of entire families who were better known in this work. The Encyclopedia lists over two pages of medals, the earliest being a bronze, dating from 1503 bearing the likeness of the Italian Jew, Benjamin Ben Elijah Harofe Beer. The obverse is filled with many Hebraic words circling a bust of Beer which has been variously interpreted to be his belief in the coming of the Messiah. There are altogether 154 listings of various medals up through 1904 which are of Judaic interest. Two additional pages of photographs commemorate prominent Jews of that time and significant historical episodes. These include medals struck to honor the Emancipation of Russian Jews by Alexander I, 1805; Napoleon and Sanhedrin, 1807; and also a number of portraits of men prominent in their days.

There is an article on two important medalists of the 19th century, a father (Jacob Abraham, 1723-1800) and his son Abrahm Abrahamson (1754-1811). Many major medals were struck by them and their works were considered to be models for later engravers.

One of the most fascinating medals pictured in The Encyclopedia is that of one given by the grateful community of Baltimore to Leon Dyer (1807-1883), an American Jewish politician, statesman, businessman, soldier and explorer whose life is practically unknown today but could have been a model for adventure in America in the 19th century. After filling a number of minor public offices in Baltimore, he was elected major and helped to restore peace after the Baltimore bread riots. Next we find him in business in New Orleans where he helped organize an expeditionary force traveling to Texas to aid in their fight for independence from Mexico. He received a commission as Major by the first president of Texas, and a little later he accompanied the guard for the Mexican General Santa Anna who was being taken to Washington, D. C. After the Texas war he was chosen to be bearer of dispatches by the antibellum Van Buren to the Prussian government and later saw extended service in the U. S. army. He was wounded fighting the Seminole Indians in Florida, and later he crossed the plains to San Francisco in '48 where he helped found the first Jewish congregation on the Pacific coast.

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Israel Numismatic Society
OF ILLINOIS

JULY 1975 BULLETIN

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL, 60035

The seventy-third general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

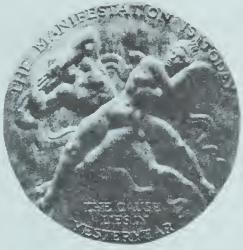
SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, July 23, 1975
8:00 P.M.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The JULY meeting will be held in the Auditorium on the FIRST floor instead of the usual 2nd floor room.

RECAP OF JUNE MEETING: After calling the meeting to order, President Stewart Koppel introduced the guests...Then Treasurer Robert Leonard gave his report...Dr. Saul Needleman briefly reported on the 1977 INSI Seminar, noting that the date was changed from summer to October or November...Stewart then informed the Club of the robbery of the Peggy Goldsmith home and the loss of part of her collection. This was a shock to the members, but we were glad to hear that part of the stolen items were recovered. As Peggy is the "New Coin Chairman" and is the recipient of Club orders, some security measures have to be taken. President Koppel then suggested that the Club rent a safety deposit box in a bank convenient to Peggy for the safekeeping of coins and medals until they are distributed. This was put to a vote and was passed. Peggy will make the arrangements and also look into the feasibility of a special Post Office Box for receiving numismatic mail. The New Coin Chairman and the Club President will be co-signers of this box..... The exhibits were next, followed by a recess during which the membership enjoyed refreshments. Thanks to Selma Kaplan, we had an assortment of cakes, coffee and tea. Everything was delicious..... The meeting was again called to order for our Annual Donated Auction. As in past years Ben Odesser was our auctioneer, and as usual, he did a magnificent job. Thanks, Ben, for being the man "with the hammer". Although the attendance was smaller than usual (due to vacations, etc.), the auction brought in the total of $152.50. We want to thank those who donated and those who made purchases. Also working with the auction, we do not want to forget Robert Leonard, who kept the record of the sales, and the two runners, Heidi Needleman and David Goldsmith..... At the conclusion of the auction tickets were distributed for door prizes. Those holding lucky numbers were Heidi Needleman, Stephen Lippitz, Bob Greenstein and Harry Flower.

EXHIBITS: Harry Flower was the first exhibitor, and he also took over the duties of Exhibits Chairman for the evening. He displayed a set of three gold bars of Judaic interest, 1/4, 1/2 and 1 ounce, produced by Rodman and Yaruss of New York (see INSI BULLETIN of June 1975). Also exhibited for the first time at our Club, the silver and bronze "Jacob and the Angel" art medals issued by The Judaic Heritage Society, Suite 4011, 866 United Nations Plaza, New York, 10017. These beautiful and meaningful medals are currently available. More information is in your INSI BULLETIN of May 1975. Lastly Harry exhibited two SIGMUND FREUD Medals in silver and bronze, each 45mm. These are the 45th in the series, "Great Men of Medicine",



issued by Presidential Art Medals, 300 W. National Road, Vandalia, Ohio, 45377. (See illustrations.) These beautiful high relief medals, sculptored by Abram Belskie, are currently available from the above address.

The next exhibitor was Doctor Morris Goldberg. He exhibited for the first showing at this Club the new Israel Government ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN Medals. These were minted in 45mm. silver and 59mm. bronze. (See illustrations in INSI BULLETIN, January 1975) and are available from the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, 850 Third Avenue, Suite 610, New York, New York, 10022 or from A. I. N. A., P. O. Box 499, Fresh Meadows Station, Flushing, New York, 11365. The price is $6.40 for the bronze and $19.90 for the silver. Also available is the gold edition, diameter of 35mm., weighing 30 grams, with a mintage of 1000. The gold medals, which are numbered, bear the facsimile signature of the maestro and are given to anyone who makes a donation of $1000.00 to the "Arthur Rubinstein Competition Fund". This fund was created "to promote young, gifted and ambitious pianists in their true artistic career". Additional information may be obtained from The Secretariat, Arthur Rubinstein Competition, P. O. Box 29404, Migdal Shalom, Tel-Aviv, Israel or from I. G. C. M. C., 11 Keren Hayesod Street, Jerusalem.

Norbert Jericho was next with the showing of a rare State Presentation Medal, the original REMEMBRANCE DAY Medal, issued in 1963. (This is Kagan No. CM-11A and Haffner No. PM-11.) This special medal was issued for presentation to the kin of fallen soldiers by the responsible unit of the Ministry of Defense. In October 1967 a reissue with several minor differences was released for sale, but was quickly withdrawn after public protest. The original, as exhibited, is bronze, 59mm. in diameter, and weighs 120 grams. (See illustration.)

The 4th exhibitor was Robert Greenstein with another "first". This was the Club's first showing of the 1975 Israel Mint Set. (See illustration.) These coins, unlike the regular 1975 trade coins, have been minted by the Bank of Israel especially for collectors, with all six denominations in a uniform silver-like color and mintmarked with a tiny Star of David. These sets may still be available from A. I. N. A. or from I. G. C. M. C.

Dr. Saul Needleman exhibited and spoke on a recent acquisition. This was the Club medal of the Baltimore Coin Club issued to commemorate its 40th Anniversary. Saul acquired this piece during a recent visit to this Club.

The last exhibitor was Ben Odesser. After briefly telling us of his trip to London, he spoke on his exhibit of the various items pertaining to the JEWISH LADS' BRIGADE (JLB). (The emblem is illustrated.) This organization, somewhat similar to the Boy Scouts, was founded by Colonel A. E. W. Goldsmid in 1895 and was the first Jewish Youth movement to be founded in Great Britain. It is a nonmilitary organi-

over 11 years of age and its purpose is "To Train its members in Loyalty, Honor, Discipline, and Self-respect, that they should become Worthy and Useful Citizens, and a Credit to their Country and Community". In addition to the various pieces of literature, Ben displayed an assortment of pins, buttons, badges and medals concerning this national British youth organization.

THE NEW LERNER MEDAL: The 5th issue in the Yom Kippur War Series has just been released by medalist Avraham Lerner. The obverse of the medal commemorates the exploits of the Israeli Major General Ariel Sharon. It bears a stylized map of the canal, over which is a three-pronged arrow with Sharon's name in Hebrew, and the dates "15-24 Oct 1973" with the Hebrew inscription "operation Goshen". The reverse, the insignia of a major general of the Israel Defense Force curved around the inscription "ALUF (R) ARIEL SHARON HERO OF ISRAEL".....Only 650 pieces were struck in 1 1/4" 999 fine silver. This historical medal is available for $7.50 from A. Lerner, P.O. Box G, Denville, New Jersey, 07834.

INSI PERSONALS: Best wishes are in order to Sidney Lorber for the marriage of his daughter Linda to Mark Freedman on June 22, 1975.

Also best wishes to Harry Flower for the marriage of his daughter Phyliss to Randy Dodd on June 11, 1975.

Robert Gartenberg was the speaker at the Morton Grove Coin Club on June 20 and at the McHenry County Coin Club on June 23, 1975. His subject was "Foreign Coins of the U.S. Mint".

Ben Odesser was the speaker at the Chicago Coin Club on July 11, 1975. His topic was "Collecting Tokens".

A reminder: Will the person who borrowed the Meerschaum pipe from Dr. Needleman, please return. This was 3 or 4 months ago at a Club meeting.

Paul Moss and his lovely wife Estelle just returned from a 7 day trip to Rumania with a 1 day side visit to Kiev, Russia. We sure would like to hear about this at a future meeting.

We have just learned that Charter Member Louis Nagy and his wife Charlotte are patients at Grant Hospital in Chicago. We wish them both all the best and a speedy recovery.

Among the INSI members with July birthdays are Aaron Kaplan and Joe Sporn. Best wishes to you both. Also born in July was Marc Chagall.

PROGRAM FOR JULY: Program Chairman Paul Moss has arranged for an important speaker for our July meeting. Mr. Yaacov Keinan, Israel Consul for Press and Information for Midwestern U.S., will speak on "Arrangements, Agreements, Peave or War in the Middle East". As Mr. Keinan is very knowledgeable in this field, his program will be interesting, educational and timely. Be sure and attend this important program. Your friends and other interested people are cordially invited.

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Editor - Mr. Harry Flower
Assoc. Editor - Dr. Alan Feinberg
Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

INSI BRIEFS

THE POMEGRANATE - A SYMBOLIC ADORNMENT

by Jerome Cohen

The symbols and signs that adorn various coins make an interesting study, and it is for this reason that the pomegranate, a most popular fruit, is being discussed. The pomegranate has been referred to quite prominently throughout our history because of its beauty and delicate flavor. Many localities in Israel, such as Ein Rimmon, Gat Rimmon and Sela Ha-Rimmon, incorporate in its name the Hebrew word for pomegranate, Rimmon. It is said that the expedition sent to the Promised Land by Moses brought back the fruit as proof of the land's fertility. Through the ages as today it is one of the choice fruits of Israel. The author of the "Song of Songs" referred to the pomegranate six times, and compared the loved one to a park of pomegranates.

In biblical times the adornments in the shape of the fruit embellished the hem of the robe worn by the high priest (Kohen) Aaron (Ex. 28: 33-34) and also the capitals of the pillars of the temple. The modern Israel one lire coin has on it a cluster of three joined pomegranates, as has the Hasmonean coins. Today as in ancient times the pomegranate grows in nearly every region of Israel, but the finest fruit comes from the valleys. In the time of the Mishna and Talmud, the pomegranate was considered as one of the most important plants and details about it abound.

Recently the Rabbi of our congregation told a story that I would like to share. "It is said that some years ago a man took the painstaking task of dissecting a pomegranate, then counting the seeds therein. He counted 613 seeds that happened to coincide with the 613 Mitzvoth mentioned in our Torah."

In the spring the tree is laden with large conspicuous beautiful red flowers. At maturity the kernels can be eaten fresh, pressed into a delicious drink or dried as a sort of raisin. The peel of the fruit contains a dark brown substance that can be used as a dye.

The incorporation of the beautiful pomegranate as part of the Israel's present day coinage is symbolic of a beautiful land that I pray will begin to enjoy 'Shalom' as the coming year 5736 draws near.

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Israel Numismatic Society OF ILLINOIS

AUGUST 1975 BULLETIN

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL. 60035

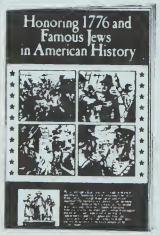
The seventy-fourth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held:

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Cakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, August 27, 1975
8:00 P.M.

RECAP OF JULY MEETING: After calling the meeting to order, President Stewart Koppel introduced the visitors. New Coin Chairman Peggy Goldsmith then reported that she had rented a Safe Deposit Box in her bank for the safe deeping of Club material and that she was arranging for a Post Office Box.... Leo Hecht reported that Mrs. Goodman, of the Skokie Library, had indicated that the Library will accept our donations of subscriptions of numismatic publications and of several books. These will be Coin World and World Coins and several books that are now club property. These books will bear book plates stating that these were gifts of INSI.... Paul Moss then gave us a synopsis of his recent Rumanian and Russian trip. His factual and "on the spot" description of Jewish life was very touching.... Leo Hecht then commented on a reply to a letter that he sent to the director of the Israel Government Coins & Medals Corp.... The exhibits were next, followed by a recess, during which we enjoyed refreshments. Thanks are due to Mrs. Reva Lurie and Dr. Sheldon Lurie for making this available to us.... After the "goodies", Program Chairman Paul Moss introduced Mr. Yaacov Keinan, from the Israel Consul's Office. Mr. Keinan spoke on the current situation in the middle East--of the economic, political, psychological and military problems of the Egyptians. He gave us facts of the Israeli-Egyptian situation that are not generally known--all delivered to us in a smooth and very interesting manner, and at no time did he refer to notes. The speaker answered questions well past adjournment time. This was one of the most informative and interesting programs that we have had. Those who were absent missed one of our "best". We thank Mr. Keinen. In appreciation, he was presented an engraved INSI Club Medal.... After the program, tickets were distributed and door prizes were selected. The lucky winners were Don Oppenheim, Stewart Koppel and Dr. Alan Feinberg.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor called to speak by Exhibits Chairman Leo Hecht was Ben Odesser.



Ben displayed, for the first time at our club, a photo copy of German Concentration Camp Identification discs. Ben also had a recently issued booklet, Honoring 1776 and Famous Jews in American History. Released by Maxwell House Coffee Co., it is available for 50¢ from Jewish American Patriots, Box 4488, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017. The booklet contains fascinating stories about the Jewish heritage in America including the profiles of many "historic" Jews who made notable contributions in the creation and building of our nation.

The second exhibitor was Harry Flower who displayed two of the new silver Lerner medals. (see INSI BULLETIN July, 1975). This was the

fifth issue of the Yom Kippur War Series, that commemorates the exploits of General Ariel Sharon. With this was an article from the Jerusalem Post of Tuesday, June 3, 1975, titled "Sharon named Rabin Advisor". The medal is currently available from A. Lerner, P.O. Box G, Danville, New Jersey 07834....Harry also had a silver and bronze medal of Rabbi Gershom Mendes Seixas of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame Series. (More later in this Bulletin). Lastly, a hard cover copy of ISRAEL'S MONEY & MEDALS, 1948-1977, A.H. Kagan, Ltd., 515 Rockaway Ave., Valley Stream, NY 11581. This publication is now considered the "supreme authority" for Israel coins, paper money and medals and is the book every Israeli collector "must" have. See INSI BULLETIN of July 1974 for more information and availability.

Saul Needleman next exhibited some interesting medals produced by the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia. Among the six medals shown was the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Issue, a three inch high relief bronze. This and many other medals concerning Americans and American history are available. Write for list of medals for sale by United States Mint, Philadelpia, Pa. 19106. Among the available medals are three of Judaic interest; HENRY MORGENTHAU, Jr. (No. 214), VICE ADMIRAL HYMAN G. RICKOVER (No. 533) and DR. JONAS E. SALK (No. 652). A large 8"x 11" fully illustrated book MEDALS OF THE UNITED STATES MINT, 274 pages, is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Saul also displayed (first viewing for most of us), the new U.S. Bicentennial 50¢ piece. Lastly, he had an unusual and historical Judaic Numismatic set of Sabbath Military Paper Money. These six pieces represented issues of three wars.

One of our newer members, Sanford Aronin, was the last exhibitor with two unusual Judaic numismatic items. Sandy had 2 old checks written by his grandfather on the State Bank of Mayville, Wisconsin;these had been cashed and back-stamped by the Bank of Mizrahi, Jerusalem. Thanks, Sandy, for sharing this unique item with us; it was a "first" at our club.

NEW ISRAEL STATE MEDAL: The latest Israel State Medal to be soon released will honor the men and women of pre-State Israel who volunteered for service with the British Forces during World Was II in the fight against Nazi Germany. The obverse features a Star of David with the work "Jude", depicting the yellow badge worn by Jews under the Nazi oppression. Curved around the rim is the proverb "If a man means to kill you, strike first" (the Talmud), in English and in the center of the medal, in Hebrew. The reverse bears the Israel flag at the top and in the center in Hebrew and English, a quote from Isaiah "Here am I - Send Me". Around the rim in Hebrew and English "The Yishuv's Volunteers in the British Forces 1939-1946". This meaningful and historic medal will be struck in both silver and bronze and is scheduled for release in the later part of 1975. Subscribers to IGCMC will automatically receive notification. Others may write to the Israel Government Coins & Medals Corp., 850 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

NEW RABBI GERSHOM SIEXAS MEDAL: The newest of the "Jewish - American Hall of Fame" series of medals is the Rabbi Gershom Mendes Seixas issue (illustration shows reverse), that

is sponsored by the Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley, Calif. 94705. During the American Revolution, in August 1776 as the British were approaching New York Ciy, Rabbi Seixas, in charge of Congregation Shearith Israel, decided to close rather than keep it open under British rule. He gathered the ceremonial objects, scrolls, prayerbooks, candlesticks, etc., and hid them for the duration. In 1784, at the close of the war, in a triumphant procession, the rabbi and his followers returned to New York with the ceremonial objects. This procession, as sculptured by Gerta Ries Weiner, is the outstanding reverse of this medal. The obverse features the portrait of the rabbi with the legend "Gershom Seixas 1745-1816". These were struck by Medallic Art Co. of Danbury, Conn. in .999 fine silver, serially numbered with mintage of 500, and in bronze numbered to 1000. The medals are available from the Magnes Museum.

INSI PERSONALS: We sure were glad to see charming Aldona Davis at the July meeting. The older INSI members will remember Aldona as one of the founders of our club. She had moved to Pittsburgh, but is now back in the Chicago area. We hope that she will be able to attend more of our meetings in the future.

Among the visitors at our last meeting was Merilyn Moss, daughter of Paul, our Program Chairman. Merilyn has just returned from a six month stay in Israel. It was a pleasure having her visit and hope that she will return often.

This seems to be "Ladies Month". Among the August birthdays are Pearl Greenstein, Peggy Goldsmith and Lea Levy; also, Dr. Sheldon Lurie. We wish you all a "happy month".

PROGRAM FOR AUGUST: Program Chairman Paul Moss has made arrangements with Mr. Richard W. Marcus to be our speaker for the August meeting. Mr. Marcus is Chief Librarian of the Spertus College of Judaica (see INSI BULLETIN of July 1974). His subject will be "Archaelogical Discoveries in Jerusalem", and his program will consist of narration and slides. Our speaker has taught this subject and is knowledgeable in this field. Archaeology, history and numismatics are related fields; therefore, this program should be of special interest to the Jewish coin collector. We are fortunate in having Mr. Marcus and members should make every effort to attend this meeting. Of course, you may invite friends to share in this special program.

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER: The October meeting will be an auction of numismatic material for for the benefit of the members. Almost all of us have accumulated duplicate coins and medals. This will be an opportunity to sell these items to your fellow members and also to buy needed pieces. If you wish, you may bring your "for sale" material to an earlier meeting and leave with President Koppel for grading and pricing or bring to the October meeting with owner's name and minimum bid (optional). The club will receive 5% commission on gold coins and medals and 10% commission on all others. (More about this coming event later).

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Editor - Mr. Harry Flower
Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

Israel Numismatic Society
OF ILLINOIS

BULLETIN

September 1975

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL. 60035

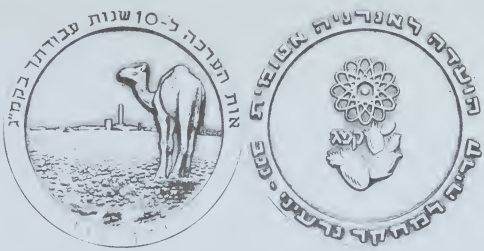
The seventy-fifth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, September 24, 1975
8:00 P.M.

RECAP OF AUGUST MEETING: After calling the meeting to order, President Stewart Koppel introduced the visitors. He announced that Mr. Yitzhak Avni, Director General of Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, would be our visitor during November of this year. Your officers and board members will have a meeting to formulate plans for this coming event.....Stewart displayed the three books that your INSI will present to the Skokie Public Library. These are Israel's Modern Money and Medals by Sylvia Haffner, 1970, Israel's 20-Year Catalog of Coins and Currency by Fred Bertram and Robert Weber, 1968, and Jewish Symbols on Ancient Coins by Paul Romanoff, 1971. The books were provided with bookplates indicating that these were gifts from your INSI.....The exhibits were next, each introduced by Exhibits Chairman Leo Hecht. After the exhibits, Program Chairman, Paul Moss, introduced the Speaker of the Evening, Mr. Richard W. Marcus. Mr. Marcus' profession is library work; he is Chief Librarian of Spertus College of Judaica. His avocation is archaeology, and he is well qualified to speak in this field. His subject "Archaeological Discoveries in Jerusalem" was a brilliant program of slides and narration; there were photos of actual sites and of maps and diagrams. It was a superb program and we thank Mr. Marcus. As a token of appreciation, Paul presented him with an engraved club medal. After the program, the meeting was adjourned and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor was Harry Flower. In keeping with the theme of the evening, he exhibited two books. These were Coin and Temple, A Study of the Architectural Representation on Ancient Jewish Coins by Alice Muehsam, Leiden, 1966, and Temple Beyond Time, The Story of the Site of Solomon's Temple by M.C. and H.A. Klein, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., New York, 1970. These books would make useful additions to your Judaic Numismatic Library. In addition, Harry had several interesting medals from Israel. Illustrated is the attractive "Jerusalem Medal of Merit", which is uniface and was struck in 61 mm. copper. This issue is used as presentation pieces by the City of Jerusalem for meritorious service. The blank area at the bottom is for engraving. The next piece was the beautiful and scarce "Atomic Energy Medal" (see illustration on page 2). This 59 mm. bronze was issued by the Atomic Research Center in the Negev for presentation to staff members in recognition of long service. The obverse features



a camel on the desert with the research center in the distance. Curved around in Hebrew "A token of appreciation for your working years at Q.M.G." (Qiryat Mehgas Garini - Tower of Nuclear Research). On the center of the reverse is the Atomic symbol, just below some cacti. Curved around the rim in Hebrew "The Committee for Atomic Energy-Tower of Nuclear Research-Negev"....In addition, there were other medals as follows: "President's Medal awarded by Jewish National Fund", N.D. 60 mm. copper; "Tabira" Stamp Exhibition Award Medal, 1968, 45 mm. bronze; and "Disabled Veterans Medal", 1971, 60 mm. bronze.

The second exhibitor was Sanford Aronin. In keeping with the Holiday season, he had a small collection of early Jewish New Year Cards. These were probably from Europe; the wordings were in German, and in Hebrew. The most interesting features of these cards were the absence of the usual motifs, such as Stars of David, Menorahs, Torahs, Shofars, etc. Some had pictures of young men and women, reminding us of modern Valentine cards. Thanks, Sandy for bringing these unusual and interesting Judaic items.

In keeping with the subject matter of the speaker, Dr. Saul Needleman displayed an "ancient" oil lamp. This modern reproduction was made from copper - an excellent piece of art work-by Saul Needleman

Aaron Kaplan spoke about a price list of coins that he recently picked up from a Swiss Bank. Interestingly, about 25 of the coins of the world listed were from Israel.

The last exhibitor was Stewart Koppel who had a full case of items from the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Convention in Los Angeles. Stewart reported on the convention itself, one of the largest in attendance and in volume of sales at the auction. Among the items exhibited was the award plaque for First Place in the gold coin category. His exhibit was "Gold Coins of Israel, 1960-1974". Our own Stewart had won this high award. Also exhibited were the convention badges, the convention medal, the Franklin Mint banquet medal, the AINA Dinner medal, the Orange County Numismatic Assoc. Medal, and several others. He spoke of the AINA Dinner and of his conversation with Mr. Avni regarding his planned visit with us in November.

"WAR MONEY" BOOKLET STILL AVAILABLE: Your editor has found out that Prisoner of War Monies and Medals by Arlie Slabaugh is still available. This 80-page booklet, originally published in 1965, gives the history of and illustrates paper currency, medals and tokens pertaining to World War I and II. Of interest to the Judaic collector are the numismatic issues of Buchenwald, Dachau, Litzmannstadt, Nordhausen, Theresienstadt, and Westerbork. Also discussed are the issues of the "American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee" for Displace Persons Camp on Cyprus.

This excellent publication is still available at the original issue price of $1.00 from Hewitt Printing Corp., 7320 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60648.

INSI BOARD MEETING: At the 9/9/75 meeting of your INSI Board, some important club matters were discussed. Among these were the November meeting with Mr. Avni. More information will be passed to the membership as progress is made....The 1976 INSI Seminar will have for the chairman, Stewart Koppel, with Saul Needleman and Harry Flower as assistants. Dr. Needleman will look into locations for this event. President Koppel suggested several minor changes in our INSI By-laws. After some discussion, Dr. Lippitz suggested that it would be easier to update the entire set of By-laws instead of making the needed changes. This was passed by your committee. Notice is hereby published in this Bulletin for the consent of the membership to waive the present By-laws so that the membership may vote on the updated By-laws to be submitted to the membership. The revision committee is Stewart Koppel, Dr. Herbert Lippitz, and Dr. Saul Needleman.

INSI PERSONALS: Congratulations are due to Stewart Koppel for winning first place award in GOLD at the ANA Convention. This is a real honor and we are proud that one of our members captured this prize.

One of our younger members, Robert Gartenberg, is now away at school. Bob is an active numismatist and a real asset to INSI. We wish him success at the University of Arizona.

Popular Myron Tiersky recently returned from a 22-day trip to Spain, Portugal, and Morocco. We would like a report at one of our meetings.

Representing your INSI at the ANA Convention in Los Angeles were Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Koppel, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Odesser, and Mr. Louis Nagy.

Birthdays - INSI members born in September were Abe DeKoven, George Jaskiewicz, and Saul Needleman. Happy birthday to you all. George Gershwin was also born in September.

PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER: The speaker for the September Meeting will be our own Dr. Saul Needleman. His subject will be "Paper Tokens of Israel". These will include tokens that were used for Charity, for Transportation, and for Sabbath use in place of money. This is a specialized branch of Judaic Numismatics--of historical and numismatic importance. Saul will "illustrate" his talk with examples from his collection. Be sure and attend this special program. Of course, friends and other interested persons are welcome.

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER: As announced last month, the October meeting will feature an auction for the benefit of the membership. This will be an excellent opportunity to sell your duplicates, and also to acquire needed items for your collection. Most of us have accumulated extras or unwanted items; why not turn these items into cash - and benefit a fellow collector at the same time. Even if you do not buy or sell, it will be a fun night and enjoyed by all. Don't miss this meeting.

PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER (SPECIAL): Be sure to mark your calendar - the November meeting will be on Wednesday, the 12th. Our special quests will be Mr. Yitzhak Avni of Jerusalem, Mr. Morris Bram of New York and, possibly, Mr. Nahum Hacohen, also of New York. As we expect a large attendance, the meeting will be in the auditorium on the first floor of the Skokie Public Library. Please remember the date - November 12. Guests are welcome.

COMMUNION TOKENS

An interesting aspect of non-Jewish Hebraica is the study of Communion Tokens. Of the 7,000 tokens issued over the past 300 years, several draw their themes from subjects of Judaic or Hebraic origins.

Communion tokens were issued by various sects of the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal churches, primarily in Scotland (about 5,000 types) but also in England, Wales, Ireland, Canada, and the United States as well as Australia and New Zealand.

Most of the tokens simply list the name of the church and the date of issue. Others include the name of the minister and some have a view of the church or the town.

The Judaic themes on communion tokens largely have biblical connotations. One of the most frequent subjects is the Burning Bush. This was used on tokens from Bracadali (1866), Duddington (1867), Innerleither (1868), and Trinity-Gask (1875). Another frequently seen subject is Noah's Ark.

Some of the rarer or unusual themes include the Passover from Lander (N.D.) and from Ochiltree (1806), Shew Bread (Lochmabin, 1850; Aberdeen, Old Machar) and done with olive branch (Dumbarton). A Star of Solomon appears on a token from Kilmaurs (1807).

The most interesting pieces are those which show the Star of David or those which include Hebrew words.

One token described in W.W. Woodside's "Bibliography of Communion Tokens" has יהוה as the major theme. This piece was issued by a church in Philadelphia in the early 1800's. Several pieces from Scotland have the same description and all are very rare. A few tokens express Jehovah in Latin rather than in Hebrew.

Another very rare token, using Hebrew, comes from Kirkcowan and is described in "Communion Tokens of the Established Church of Scotland , 16th, 17th and 20th Centuries" by A.J.S. Brook, 1908. Kirkcowan appears around the edge with אות (Hebrew. Oth. for token) on the obverse and 1742 with a T and heart on the reverse.

INSI - Briefs

By Saul Needleman

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BULLETIN

October 1975

The seventy-sixth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, October 22, 1975
8:00 P.M.

RECAP OF SEPTEMBER MEETING: After President Stewart Koppel called the meeting to order, the Treasurer's report was given. He then discussed the new proposed Constitution and By-laws that will be written as soon as possible. The proposed new club dues are $6.00 for adults ($1.00 increase), $7.00 for family ($1.00 increase) with the Junior members dues remaining the same.....Stewart then announced that beginning in October, a mini-raffle will be held at each meeting. The purpose is to stimulate additional interest. Of course, the club also will benefit. Robert Greenstein will be in charge of this monthly event.....The members were reminded of the Special Meeting on November 12th and the Hanukkah Party meeting on December 17. (More about these later).....President Koppel appointed the Nominating Committee for 1976. Paul Moss, Ben Odessor and Robert Schwartz will select a slate of INSI Officers for 1976. The names will be published in the November BULLETIN and the election will be in December.....The speaker of the evening was our own Dr. Saul Needleman. Saul's subject was "Paper Tokens of the Holy Land", and he illustrated his talk with actual specimens from his collection. Among the items covered in this talk were the Sinai Campaign Tokens, the 6-Day War Sabbath Tokens, the Yom Kippur Sabbath Tokens, Dan Bus Company Tokens, Hamaavir Cooperative Society Tokens, the Zagaggi Family Grocery Store and the Matzoh Tokens of Dr. Wallach. Illustrated here are

(1)

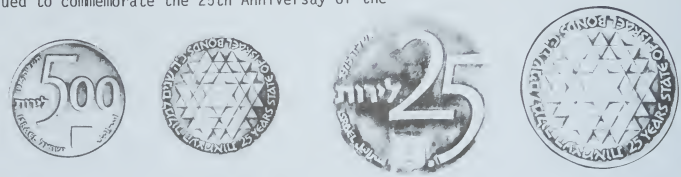
(2)

(3)

(1). Hamaavir Cooperative; (2). Dan Bus Co.; and (3). Zagaggi Grocery Store. We thank Saul for a very interesting talk on a popular branch of Judaic Numismatics. After the program, the meeting was adjourned. The members enjoyed coffee and cake. Again, we

thank Selma Kaplan for providing the snacks.

EXHIBITS: For the first showing at our club, Stewart Koppel displayed the new coins issued to commemorate the 25th Anniversay of the



State of Israel Bonds. These included the 25 pounds in BU and in proof, and the 500 pounds in gold. The gold issue was housed in a beautiful olive wood box. The illustrations are actual size. For more information see your INSI BULLETIN of April, 1975.

Saul Needleman displayed two Scottish Confirmation Tokens that were minted in 1734 and 1856. One had the Star of David motif.

Ben Odessor exhibited a token from K. Wolens Department Store, issued for its 50th Anniversary, 1898-1948. It had the Hebrew inscriptions for "Luck and Blessings".

Bob Leonard showed the bronze and silver medals prepared for the Illinois State Numismatic Society Convention in Springfield. These are still available at $1 and $10.

SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL REQUEST: President Koppel is making a request to those members who have been arriving late to our meetings. Please try to arrive earlier so that the meetings can start promptly at 8:00 p.m. It would be very desirable to start on time. Please make a sincere effort.

YOUR INSI BULLETIN: Perhaps you noticed something different about your last BULLETIN. For the last six years, Dr. Alan Feinberg had accepted and performed the job of "proof reading" and having the master copy typed. In addition, for the last 3 years, he had these printed, folded, stamped, and mailed to the members. This was a time consuming and responsible undertaking. Recently, it became impossible for Dr. Feinberg to continue this work - he had to resign as Associate Editor.

The members and officers of INSI sincerely thank him for the years of loyalty and service. He did a great job. Our club publication has been acclaimed as one of the best in the country - thanks to Alan Feinberg.

The September BULLETIN, and, hopefully, from now on, had been typed in the office of Dr. Needleman. The master copy was of professional quality and our paper was up to our usual standard. Thanks, Saul, (and his secretary, Pat Wilson) for taking over.

INSI PERSONALS: At the 25th Anniversary Banquet of the Oak Park Coin Club that took place on September 28, 1975, Harry Flower was one of the past presidents honored at this event.

Stewart Koppel won first place in the "Gold" category in the Illinois Numismatic Assoc. Coin Show that was held at Springfield on September 26-28.

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER: It was already announced that the October meeting will feature an auction - this auction is for the benefit of the members. Any member may bring his duplicate coins and they will be auctioned at this meeting. This will be an excellent opportunity to turn your "extras" into cash and, at the same time, may benefit a fellow member by offering a needed item. The club will receive a 5% commission on gold coins and medals and a 10% commission on all other items.

Please bring your material identified with your name. Also, you may indicate a minimum value for each lot. The marking of a minimum bid is optional. To repeat, be sure that the owner's name and minimum bid (if any) is plainly indicated so as not to delay the auctioneer.

What should you bring to sell? Any extra coins, medals, tokens or other numismatic material. These are not restricted to Israel or Judaic items. You may bring books or just about anything that would be of interest to our members. Remember, do not hesitate to submit a gold item as you can protect its value by the minimum bid.

To keep the auction material "in balance" we must limit each member to 10 or 12 lots. You may group inexpensive items. For example, if you want to sell 10 Indian Head cents, place into an envelope and submit as one lot.

As a final note, "Auction Time" is "Fun Time". Even if you do not have anything to sell, it will be an evening of enjoyment and relaxation. We are sure that it will be an enjoyable evening for all. Remember that visitors are welcome. There will be refreshments and, of course, the usual numismatic displays.

PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER: Please mark your calendar for November 12th, the date of our special meeting. This will take place in the Auditorium on the first floor of the Skokie Library. Mr. Yitzhak Avni of Jerusalem, who is Director of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, and Mr. Morris Bram of New York, who is President of the American Israel Numismatic Association, will be our guests at this meeting. We expect a large attendance; be sure to arrive on time. Of course, friends and other interested persons are welcome.

Prior to the meeting, some of the officers and members will attend a dinner in honor of our guests. This dinner will be at a local restaurant (to be announced later) and any of our members may attend (Dutch treat). If you want to be with this dinner group, call Stewart Koppel at 897-2454. Remember, this is for dinner on November 12, just prior to the meeting.

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER: Again, be sure to mark your calendar. The meeting for this month will be December 17th. As in past years, we will have election of 1976 officers and our annual Hanukkah and Xmas Party.

INSI BRIEFS

GOLD JUDAIC COINS
PART I

By Harry Flower

In the process of collecting the Coins of Israel, the collector finds that in many cases he will gradually expand this interest to include other issues that are Judaic. We know that the ancient Jews did not have gold in their coinage nor were there any Palestinian gold issues. The first gold coins of the modern State of Israel was the "Herzl Centenary" of 1960. Since this, there have been nine other gold issues.

This article is about gold coins that are Judaic but did not originate in the Holy Land. Although opinions vary as to the "Judaic category" of the following coins, this collector believes that they do belong in this classification. Unfortunately, all of these are quite rare and expensive. Although most collectors of Judaic coins will never have these in their collections, we believe that due to their great interest and to their important historical significance, he should have knowledge of them. The following three gold issues will be the subject matter of this article.

I. The Gold Daric of Ancient Persia: The first gold coinage that may be considered "Judaic" is the gold Daric of Ancient Persia. Although these coins were not issued or produced by the Jews, they were extensively used and employed by them. (See Chapter III, History of Jewish Coinage, Frederic W. Madden, London 1864 or reprint by Pegasus Publishing Company, San Diego, California, 1967).

After the fall of the First Temple and fifty years of exile, Babylonia was conquered by the Persians under King Cyrus. In 536 BCE, the Persian King issued a proclamation permitting the Jewish exiles to return to their homeland. They were allowed to take their possessions including their money and other valuables. As was stated in the Babylonian Talmud, the Jews returned with Persian Gold Darics that were used as payment in the rebuilding of the Second Temple.

The Darics are small, thick, irregular gold pieces weighing about 8.4 grams (129.7 grains). Some pieces are generally round, others are oval, with diameters from about 11 mm. to about 15 mm. Featured on the coin is the King, usually kneeling, holding a bow and javelin or a bow and dagger. There are many variations of this design. It is believed that the King on the coin is not a specific King, but represents any of the Persian monarchs. The reverse of the coin is an irregular incuse square. There is no inscription. Generally speaking, the Darics are very crude and of poor workmanship; but it must be remembered that these are one of the earliest of all coin-types, over 2,500 years old. From a Judaic viewpoint, the Darics played a significant role in the rebuilding of the Second Temple - a very important segment of Jewish History. A specimen would be a "prize" in your Judaic Coin Collection.

PART TWO OF THIS ARTICLE WILL APPEAR IN A SUBSEQUENT ISSUE.

Please credit the Israel Numismatics Society of Illinois Bulletin and the author for any reproduction.

President - Mr. Stewart Koppel
First Vice President - Dr. Morris Goldberg
Second Vice President - Mr. Leo Hecht
Secretary - Mr. Robert Greenstein
Treasurer - Mr. Robert Leonard
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Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

Israel Numismatic Society
OF ILLINOIS

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL. 60035

NOVEMBER 1975

BULLETIN

The seventy-seventh general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5215 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1975
8:00 P.M.

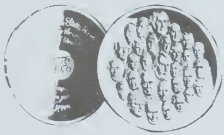
Please note that this important INSI meeting will not be held on the usual meeting date, but will take place on November 12 at 8:00 P.M. in the Auditorium on the first floor of the Skokie Public Library. As previously announced, our special guests will be The Honorable Yitzhak Avni of Jerusalem, Director-General of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation and Mr. Morris Bram of New York, President of the American Israel Numismatic Association. Both of our guests are accomplished speakers and they will bring messages of importance concerning our interests. There will be an opportunity to ask questions. We urge every member to make a real effort to attend. The auditorium is large - we can accomodate your friends and other interested people. Of course, there will be no charge to visitors. There will be numismatic displays and refreshments.

Prior to the meeting, some of the officers and members will attend a dinner with our guests. This dinner will be at The Kenilworth Inn, 7110 N. Lincoln Avenue. Any member may join this group (Dutch). Please inform Stewart Koppel (897-2454), giving him the number in your party. From the restaurant, the group will proceed to the Library for the meeting.

RECAP OF OCTOBER MEETING: After calling the meeting to order, President Stewart Koppel requested a report from Treasurer Robert Leonard. Under new business, he named Mr. Harry Flower, Dr. Saul Needleman, and Dr. Alan Feinberg as members of a committee to consider possible recipients for the INSI "Medal of Merit". Saul announced that the Niles Township Congregation of Skokie would like copies of our INSI Bulletins for their Judaic Library. Stewart reminded the members that election for new officers would be in December. In addition to those recommended by the nominating committee, nominations will be accepted from the floor. ...Exhibits Chairman Leo Hecht then called on the exhibitors. After the exhibits, there was a recess during which coffee and cake was enjoyed... Ben Odesser took over the meeting as the auctioneer. In his usual interesting and professional style, he went through the many lots that were brought by the members. There was some fine numismatic material sold. Both the individual member and the club benefited from this auction.

Special thanks are due, first to Ben Odesser, as auctioneer; to Peggy Goldsmith, and Bob Leonard, the record keepers and, finally, to Heidi Needleman and David Goldsmith, who were the runners. We also want to thank Lea and Ernest Levy, Sidney Lorber and Aaron Kaplan who made generous donations. At the conclusion of the auction, Robert Greenstein conducted the mini-raffle. This was won by lucky Dr. Morris Goldberg.

EXHIBITS: The first exhibitor was [illegible] Quesser with three medals of Judaic interest. These were a rare 100 mm. bronze of Adolph Zuker, issued in 1926 on the 15th Anniversary of Paramount Pictures; a 68 mm. bronze of Benedict Spinoza by Turin and struck at the Paris Mint; and thirdly, a 68 mm. bronze of Lord George Bentinck (1802-1848), a British politician and M.P. who was a friend of the Jews. Hugh Pearl exhibited the silver and bronze Bicentennial Medals, sculpted by Gilroy Roberts and issued by the Franklin Mint. This beautiful and historical issue is one of the most significant medals produced by the world's largest private mint. It portrays the faces of thirty Americans who helped shape our country during its 200 years. At the 5:00 o'clock position is the face of Albert Einstein.



Norbert Jericho exhibited a group of official State of Israel Medals. These were International Press Institute, Music and Drama Festival, First Z.O.A. Convention, Third Israel Festival, Chess Olympics and First Settlers Year.

Robert Leonard had a graphic-numismatic exhibit of ancient coins. This was a display of "Coins of the 7 Churches of Asia" as written in the Book of Revelation in the New Testament. Bob had display cards with the ancient locations with a coin representing each. These were 1) EPHESUS 14-54 A.D., 2) SMYRNA 38-39 A.D., 3) PERGAMUM 133-29 B.C., 4) THYATIRA 54-68 A.D., 5) SARDIS 189-90 B.C., 6) PHILADELPHIA 159-133 B.C., and 7) LAODICEA 27-B.C.-14 A.D.

The fifth exhibitor was Saul Needleman with a 38 mm. bronze, a Bicentennial issue of the Peoples Mint of Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Harry Flower had a display of "CHARMS AND TALISMANS OF JUDAIC INTEREST". There were about 30 "Menoras", "Stars of David", "Chais" and other amulets and good luck pieces. These were made from gold, silver, copper, brass, aluminum, pewter, nickel alloy, ivory, jade, glass, mother of pearl and wood.

Robert Greenstein showed the October 14, 1975 issue of The Jerusalem Post, page 7, which pictured and described the new Hanukka 1975 and Pidyon Haben 1976 coins. (More about these elsewhere in this Bulletin.)

SPECIAL NOTICE FROM NEW COIN CHAIRMAN: Peggy Goldsmith has given us a list of the members that have ordered and paid for coins but have not picked them up. Joseph Ashman, Nathan Lomansky and David Schecter have material that arrived several months ago. For the recent "Israel Bonds" issue, there are Sanford Aronin, Melvin Karp, Charles Kisner, Abe De Koven, Dr. E. Margolish, Dr. H.J. Melon and Paul Moss. If unable to attend the next meeting, please make arrangements to obtain your coins. Peggy's phone number is 673-8514.

NEW ISRAEL 1975 HANUKKA COINS: Recently announced in the Jerusalem Post, the new 1975 Hanukka Coin (face value 10 pounds) will feature an 18th century oil lamp from Holland. It is newly designed, different from the earlier issues of this series. As before, the coin will be struck in two types, brilliant uncirculated and in proof. Maximum mintage for the B.U. will be 67,500 (compared to 74,550 last year) and for the proof 50,000 (compared to 58,900 last year).

NEW ISRAEL 1976 PIDYON HABEN COINS: The 1976 Pidyon Haben Coin (Redemption of the First Born) will again have a face value of 25 pounds but will have a complete new design. The decision for this change was made by the Bank of Israel. These will also be struck in brilliant uncirculated and in proof. The maximum mintage is not known at this time. As before, these will be available in sets of five in a special case with certificate as prescribed by biblical ordinance for the ceremony. Subscribers will receive notification and order froms in the near future for both of these issues. INSI members will be informed through your Bulletin when the club order will be placed.

FRANKLIN MINT 1975 HOLIDAY ISSUES: As in previous years, The Franklin Mint will issue various Holiday items. Among these will be a bronze and silver medal "Prayer at Hanukkah" sculptured by William Shoyer. The bronze edition will be issued in a "Happy Hanukkah" card, packaged in boxes of six. The sterling silver proof will be in a lucite stand. These will be available from most coin dealers, six cards with bronze medal for $19.50, the silver medal for $15.00. These will make a beautiful addition to your Judaic collection.

INSI PERSONALS: In the Fall 1975 issue of The Shekel, there is a feature article "Numismatic Views of Jerusalem" by Harry Flower. This article was prepared from his exhibit at the Greater New York Coin Convention that took place in New York City, May 1-4, 1975.

The October birthdays were inadvertently omitted from the last Bulletin. Our October births were Harry Flower, Cy Lillien, Sidney Lorber and Michael Sporn. Best belated wishes. Also born in October were Moses Montefiore and David Ben-Gurion.

Our November birthdays are Robert Gartenberg, Stewart Koppel, Jeffrey Lillien, and Sherry Nortman. Have a happy month! Also born in November were Chaim Weizmann and Benedict Spinoza.

Congratulations are due Alvin and Peggy Goldsmith on the Bar-Mitzvah of their son David. Best wishes Dave, on your October 25th event!

Orders for the new coins will be taken at this meeting only.

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Second Vice President - Mr. Leo Hecht
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Board Members - Dr. Herbert Lippitz, Mr. Aaron Kaplan, Dr. Saul Needleman, Mr. Harry Flower

INSI BRIEFS

GOLD JUDAIC COINS

PART II

By Harry Flower

2. The Gold Coins of Tierra del Fuego: In 1876 gold was discovered on Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire), the great Island located at the southern tip of South America.

Julius Popper, a young Jewish engineer from Romania, heard of this new gold field while in Argentina, on a trip around the world. Being adventurous, he obtained a government concession and official military control of about ten square miles, then organized a company called "The Gold Washing Company of the South". With his organized group, he went to the island in 1887 to extract gold. He was successful from the start and soon set up a form of local government. By 1889, Popper organized his "El Paramo Mint" and struck gold coins, and also had postage stamps issued in 1891. The coins were the 1 Gramo and 5 Gramos, both feature the name "POPPER" across the center with crossed hammer and pick axe. The small coin weighs 1 gram (13 mm.) and the 5 Gramo coins weighs 5 grams (19 mm.). Some have classified this coinage as a territorial issue of Argentina, but other authorities consider this as an issue of a short-lived sovereign state. This would be the first gold coin issue by a sovereign state of Jewish authority in the history of the world. These historical and rare gold pieces would be an important addition to your Judaic Coin Collection.

(For additional information on this fascinating subject:
Bruno Kisch, "Judaica in Nummis", Historia Judaica, VII, p. 135-158, 1945
Elwin Leslie, "Tierra del Fuego", Tams Journal, Vol. II-5, p. 170-175, 1971
Jean Kohn, "Julius Popper", Philatelic Judaica Journal, Vol. V, No. 3, p. 671-675, 1969 [Translated from French by Maurice Burnston].
Hans Schulman, "Gold Fever", Coin World, Sept. 18, 1968, p. 39.
Roni Grad, "Coins of Tierra del Fuego", Coin World, May 15, 1974, p. 42, and, of course, any good Jewish Encyclopedia.)

3. The Tangier Gold Hercules: This is a private issue of a bank in Tangier, the international city in Morocco, North Africa. The central motif of the obverse is a figure of "Hercules", from which the name of the piece is derived. Curved around the rim is the issuing firm "FIRST BANKING CORPORATION TANGIER". The reverse bears inscriptions only, around the rim: "ONE FINE OUNCE TROY (Grms. 31.103) of gold assay 916.7". In the center "REFINED BY N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS R.M.R.". The piece is 26 mm. in diameter, about 4 mm. thick and has reeded edges. It is Judaic, of course, because of the Rothschild Refining Firm. Although, it is undated, it was issued in 1954. The mintage is unknown, but is is now quite scarce. The Gold Hercules would be an interesting addition to your Judaic Coin Collection. NOTE: This piece is listed in Gold Coins of the World by Robert Friedberg, 1965, New York, under "TANGIER", page 372.

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Israel Numismatic Society
OF ILLINOIS

Box 932, Ravinia Station
Highland Park, IL. 60035

BULLETIN

DECEMBER 1975

The seventy-eighth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) will be held at the

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
512 Oakton Avenue
Skokie, Illinois

Wednesday, December 17, 1975

Please note that the meeting will be on the 17th instead of on the 24th. Although the lighting of the first candle was on November 28th, we will have our yearly Hanukkah Party at the December meeting. We wish to take this opportunity to wish all of our members and their families a very happy Hanukkah and to our non-Jewish members and their families, a very Merry Christmas. In the spirit of the season we are reproducing this Channukiah as it appeared on a Hanukkah Medal. This outstanding piece was sculptured by Ernest Schroeder and was produced by the Franklin Mint in 1971 in honor of the Hanukkah Holiday. It was struck in bronze (issued in a "Happy Hanukkah Card") and in sterling silver (issued in a lucite case).

RECAP OF NOVEMBER MEETING: After calling this special meeting to order, (there were over 100 members and guests), President Stewart Koppel welcomed the visitors. Robert Leonard gave a Treasurer's report and Ben Odesser gave the slate of the nominating committee (more later). Peggy Goldsmith reported that the INSI Annual Dinner is scheduled for January 18th, 1976, at the Hyatt House on Lincoln and Touhy. Peggy also took orders for the new Israel coins. After the business part of the meeting, the two exhibitors, Robert Leonard and Harry Flower, spoke of their displays. Stewart then introduced the first speaker of the evening, Mr. Morris Bram. Mr. Bram, who is President of the American Israel Numismatic Association (AINA), spoke of its growth to the second largest numismatic organization in the world; of its official publication, The Shekel; of the member clubs throughout the United States and Canada; of the annual trip to Israel (the next one is March 11-25, 1976); of the annual convention, usually in New York in the first week of May; of the offers of new issues of coins and medals of Israel; and of several other benefits. He is a most interesting speaker and we appreciated his wealth of numismatic information.

Our next speaker was Mr. Nahum H. Hacohen, North American Director of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation (IGCMC). Mr. Hacohen explained that he was replacing Mr. Yitzhak Avni, who was called back to Jerusalem while in transit to the United States. Mrs. Avni had been taken to the hospital for surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery. The director spoke on Israeli Numismatics, of the new IGCMC policy for maximum mintage and a specific cutoff date. He stated that there were over 150,000 registered subscribers; that a new "ADDENDUM" to the official 1974 catalogue would be released soon to the clubs; that a kit of coin and medal brochures would be given to

anyone who joins AINA; and that a new film, "Israel, the Country and Commemorative Coins", would be sent as a gift to our club. Toward the end of his very interesting and informative talk, he offered to help our club with "tools and material" that could be used for club improvement. An interesting note brought out by Mr. Hacohen was that the IGCMC was looking for an authentic early American Menorah, to be the feature design on the 1976 Israel Hanukkah Coin. Anyone knowing of the existence of a Colonial American Menorah, please communicate with IGCMC in New York or with an INSI officer. Dr. Needleman was charged with investigating two sources he knew of (see INSI Briefs). After his talk there was a recess for refreshments, and later, the drawing for the door prizes. The door prizes were two State Medals donated by Mr. Bram and Mr. Hacohen. These were won by Lisa Derman and Sheryl Steinberg. The question and answer session that followed lasted well past our normal adjournment time. At the end, President Koppel presented our speakers with beautiful plaques in appreciation of their visit to our club. We sincerely thank both of them and hope that they will soon visit us again.

EXHIBITS: Robert Leonard had an attractive historical display of ancient coins. This graphic presentation represented five generations of the Julio-Claudian Dynasty: L. Julius, L. F. Caesar 94 B.C., Britannicus 54 A.D. on a coin of Judea of Procurator Antonius Felix. Harry Flower was the next exhibitor with official IGCMC Pidyon Ha-Ben 5-piece coin sets. One of these sets was in the deluxe Olive wood box (see illustration) and the other in the standard case. These were exhibited for the benefit of our visitors who were not aware of the annual issue and availability of these coin sets for the Pidyon Ha-Ben Ceremony. With each set, a certificate is provided attesting to the ritual fitness of the silver coins. Space is allowed for the name of the child, date and other details. For price and information, write Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, 800 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER: At this season, it would be fitting to have exhibits with a Hanukkah theme. Coins, medals and tokens pertaining to this holiday, religious items, menorahs, paintings, prints, etc. would be appropriate. With the cooperation of the members, this could be an outstanding evening of exhibits, to be enjoyed by our members and visitors. Why not share some of your possessions with us by making a December exhibit? It is a rewarding experience and other members will appreciate your effort.

The highlight of the December meeting will, of course, be the Hanukkah and Christmas Party. There will be goodies of all kinds. Any member may bring additional candy, cookies, or other sweets. It would be appreciated. The December meeting will be an evening of sweets, fun, fellowship and socializing.

ELECTION OF 1976 INSI OFFICERS: The election of 1976 officers will take place at the December meeting. Ben Odesser reported that the nominating committee recommended that the incumbent officers serve for 1976. The slate is as follows: President, Mr. Stewart Koppel; First Vice President, Dr. Morris Goldberg; Second Vice President, Mr. Leo Hecht; Secretary, Mr. Robert Greenstein; Treasurer, Mr. Robert Leonard. Please remember that any other qualified member may be nominated from the floor. The installation of the elected officers will take place at our Annual Dinner on January 18, 1976.

NEW ISRAEL STATE MEDALS: Just released by IGCMC is a medal honoring Israel's metal working industry. This is the third in a series commemorating Israel's industry. The Obverse of the medal features an anvil, which symbolizes metal working, with the inscription "The Israel Metal Working Industry" just above in English and Hebrew.

Just below is the date "1975" and its equivalent in Hebrew. The reverse features a seven-branched menorah fitting into the wheels of world industry, representing Israel's imports and exports. The inscription "Ministry of Commerce & Industry" appears on the rim in English and Hebrew. This medal will be struck only in 59 mm. bronze, weighing 95 grams. It is currently available for $7.00 from Israel Government Coins & Medals Corporation, 850 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

The IGCMC also announced its decision to issue a new BAR MITZVAH MEDAL in gold, 30 mm. in diameter, identical to the 1961 issue (Haffner M-12) and (Kagan SM-12) but without the inscription "Bar Mitzvah of the State of Israel".

A third new medal to be issued, the WEDDING MEDAL, will be struck in both silver and gold. These will be available to be used as gifts for newly wedded couples or for wedding anniversaries.

Details of the last two issues were not available as of this writing. As more information becomes available, it will be published in this Bulletin. You may write IGCMC at the above address for the latest information.

INSI PERSONALS: Mr. Jack Needleman, father of our past president, Dr. Saul Needleman, passed away on November 24, 1975. The members and officers of INSI extend their sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

Ellen Oppenheim, one of our popular Junior members, had her Bas Mitzvah on October 3, 1975. A belated congratulations and best wishes to Ellen and her parents.

Aaron Kaplan was recently elected president of the Chicago Drug Club. This is a high honor for one of our active members. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Aaron.

Stewart Koppel has "scored again". He won Best of Show at the Oak Park Coin Club's 18th Annual Show on November 2, 1975. His exhibit was "Gold Coins of Israel".

After another "visit" to the hospital, we are glad to hear that Dave Silverman is back on the job. We of INSI wish him a complete recovery and the best of health.

Congratulations are due Saul Needleman. He was elected secretary of the North Shore Coin Club.

EIGHTH AINA TRIP TO ISRAEL: The next annual trip to Israel, co-sponsored by IGCMC and AINA, will take place March 11-25, 1976. This event is the "high point" of Israel Numismatic activity of the year. If you are thinking of a trip, this is the greatest! Check with past participants in our group. For more information and a brochure, write to AINA, 91-31 Queens Boulevard, Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373.

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INSI - Briefs

In Search of a Menorah

By Saul Needleman

At the November meeting of INSI, Mr. Nahum Hacohen, Director for North America of IGCMC, informed us of the plans of the Israeli government to honor the United States Bicentennial by including a menorah of 18th century American origin on the IL 10 Channukah coin for 1976. In discussing possible locations of such menorah, Mr. Hacohen charged me with pursuing the identification of such a menorah.

The first phase of my investigation was to examine the holdings of Mr. Maurice Spertus (a member of INSI) and the Spertus Museum of Judaica. Although the museum boasts of a large number of menorah and Channukiah, none of the early pieces were of American origin. Many had been brought to this country by the waves of German immigrants during the 1830-50's and by the Russian Jews who followed in the 1880-1920's. Others were acquired largely from North African and Middle Eastern sources.

An examination of the listing of the collection at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, of the Jewish Museum in New York City, and of the Judaica collection of a museum in Los Angeles also revealed the absence of 18th century American-made menorah.

The final phase of the search involved a telephone call to Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island. This is the oldest Synagogue in the United States, founded in 1657. During 1964 and 1965, Sondra and I were members of this Synagogue. At that time, we saw a silver menorah which was said to have been made about the time of the American Revolution. The memory of that piece stuck with us and the telephone call confirmed its existence. Although I was told that the documentation attending to the origin of the menorah has been lost, it is felt that the menorah was made by a Jewish silversmith, whose name has been lost, during the late 1700's. The only known Jewish silversmith of that period is Meyer Meyerson, but this piece is not listed on any catalogue of his works. As a matter of fact, though Meyerson made many pieces of religious as well as of secular significance, there is no evidence that he made a menorah at all. Coincidentally, the other silversmith who made items that might have Judaic association was Paul Revere.

When I requested a photograph of the menorah from the Director of Touro Synagogue (the Synagogue is a National Shrine), I was told that Tiffany Jewelers in New York had borrowed the menorah last year and had prepared an exact photographic duplicate which they now use on a stationary card available there. This information was relayed to Mr. Hacohen in New York, who was surprised to find the answer to his search almost around the corner from the IGCMC office.

As a result of my brief search, Israel may have the picture of the 18th century menorah it needs for the new Channukah coin, and if Mr. Hacohen keeps his promise, INSI will get the credit for finding it.

Interestingly, one other menorah of American origin emerged from this search. Several catalogues list a piece made in Revolutionary America which was loaned to a museum in Amsterdam many years ago. Both the owner and the museum to which the menorah was loaned no longer are known, but here is an example of a reverse travel of a menorah from the U.S. to Europe. The Jewish section of the Rijks Museum in Amsterdam has an entire room filled with menorah and Channukiah. We might even have seen it when we visited the museum two years ago.